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John Fenwick

OF

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

Attorney at Law.

BORN AT HEXHAM 14 APRIL 1787.

MARRIED AT ALNWICK 9 JUNE 1814.

Pur. Gough Add's Durham

4°. 9.

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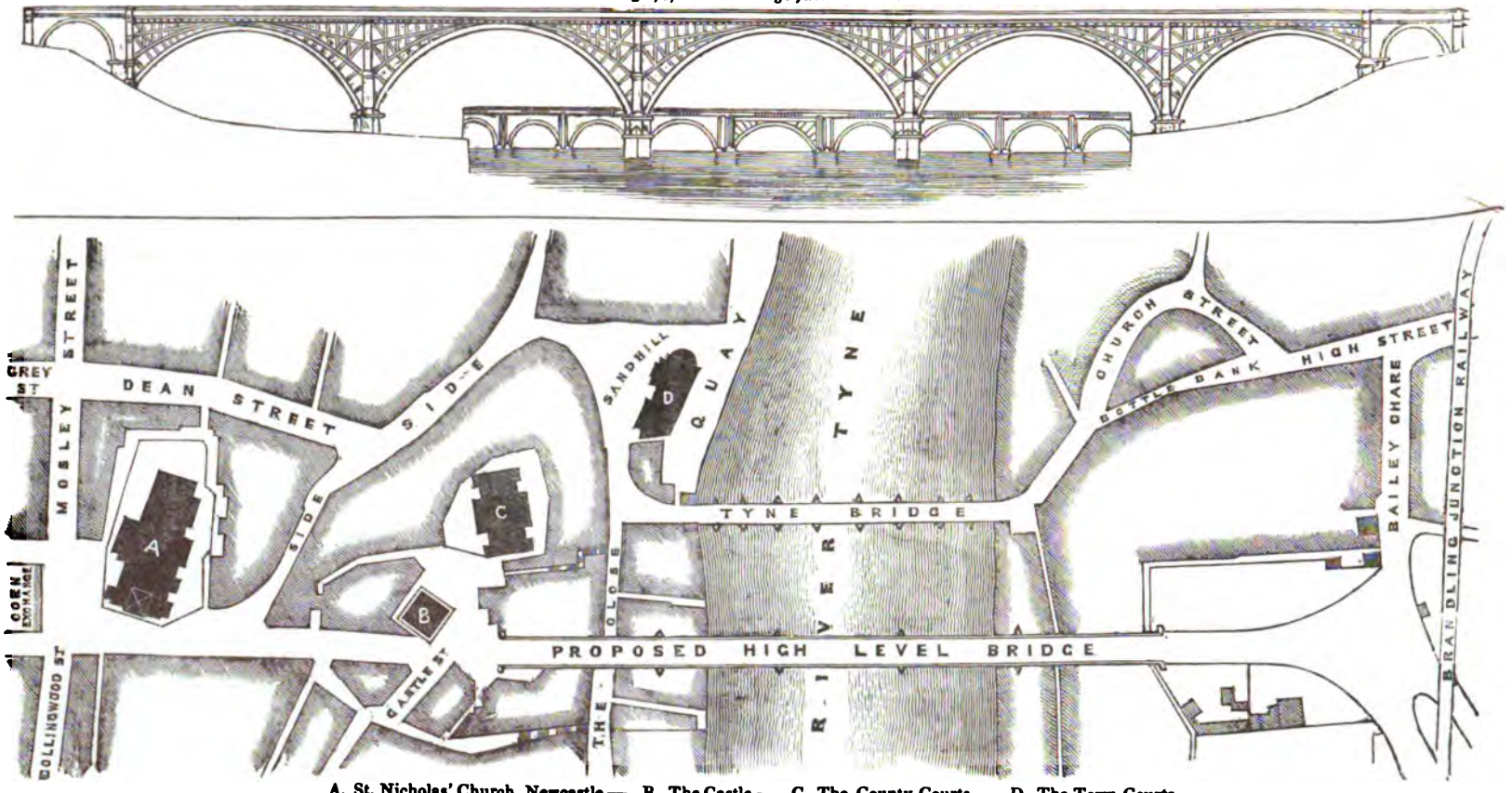
THE HIGH-LEVEL BRIDGE ACROSS THE TYNE,

WITH STONE-PIERS AND TIMBER-ARCHING,

DESIGNED BY MESSRS. JOHN AND BENJAMIN GREEN, OF THE ARCADE, NEWCASTLE, ARCHITECTS.

Length, 1,150 Feet.—Height, about 108 Feet.



A. St. Nicholas' Church, Newcastle.——B. The Castle.——C. The County Courts.——D. The Town Courts.

NOTICE is hereby given, that application is intended to be made to Parliament, in the next session, for an Act for Erecting, Building, and Maintaining, a BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER TYNE, and over lands and hereditaments adjoining the same; and which said bridge will extend from a place called Castle-street, in the parish of St. Nicholas, in the borough and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to or near to a close or parcel of ground late belonging to Edmund Graham, Esquire, and now to the Brandling Junction Railway Company, situate in the borough and parish of Gateshead, in the county of Durham; with proper and convenient roads, avenues, and approaches to the said bridge; one of such roads, avenues, and approaches to communicate with the north end of the said bridge, at or near to the said street called Castle-street, and to extend therefrom to a street or place called Saint Nicholas'-square, within the said borough and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and another of such roads, avenues, and approaches to communicate with the south end of the said bridge, at or near to the said close or parcel of ground late of the said Edmund Graham, and to extend therefrom through the said close or parcel of ground, and to terminate at a street, lane, or chare, called Bailey-chare, near to the north end of a street called West-street, in the said borough and parish of Gateshead; and which said bridge, roads, avenues, and approaches are intended to pass from, through, or into, or to be made within the parish of Saint Nicholas, and the parish or parochial chapelry of Saint John, in the said borough and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and the said parish of Gateshead, in the said county of Durham, or some of them, or some part or parts thereof. And it is intended by the said Act to incorporate a Company for the purposes aforesaid, and to take powers for purchasing messuages, lands, tenements, buildings, and other hereditaments, and other powers requisite or necessary for the purposes aforesaid; and also powers to raise money for the several purposes of the said intended Act, by the creation of shares, or by some other mode, to be authorized and provided for in and by such intended Act. And it is further intended to take powers by the said Act to levy, collect, and take tolls, rates, and duties, for passing and repassing over and along the said bridge. And that it is intended to obtain powers by the said Act, to deviate to any extent, not exceeding ten yards, on each or either side of the said intended bridge, roads, avenues, and approaches, according to the lines thereof, as at present laid out upon the plans hereinafter mentioned. *And Notice is hereby further given*, that duplicate plans and sections of the proposed bridge, roads, avenues, and approaches, with books of reference thereto, as required by the standing orders of Parliament, will, in pursuance of such standing orders, be deposited for public inspection with the Clerk of the Peace for the borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne aforesaid, at his office, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne aforesaid, and with the Clerk of the Peace for the said county of Durham, at his office, in or near the city of Durham, in the said county of Durham, on or before the thirtieth day of November instant; and that a copy of so much of the said plans and sections as relates to each of the said parishes and parochial chapelry, together with a book of reference thereto, will be deposited with the Parish Clerk of each such parish and parochial chapelry, at their respective places of abode, on or before the 31st day of December next.—Dated this thirteenth day of November, 1841.

CLAYTONS & DUNN,
THOMAS SWINBURNE,
Solicitors for the Bill.

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LOCAL COLLECTIONS;

OR

RECORDS OF REMARKABLE EVENTS,

CONNECTED WITH THE

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

1841.

☞ ONLY SIXTY COPIES PRINTED.—TO BE CONTINUED ANNUALLY.

Gateshead-on-Tyne:
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MDCCCXLII.

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HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

SOMETHING USEFUL.

The following almanack for the present year may be cut out, and inserted in a pocket-book :—

1841	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Jan.						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						
Feb.		1	2	3	4	5	6
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	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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	28						
Mar		1	2	3	4	5	6
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	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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	28	29	30	31			
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	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Jun.			1	2	3	4	5
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Jul.					1	2	3
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	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Au.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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	29	30	31				

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Oc.						1	2
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D.				1	2	3	4
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	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

We have great pleasure in publishing the following evidence of the growing prosperity of the port of Stockton :—

Receipt of Customs, 1836	£54,497 17 4
" " " 1837	61,540 13 1
" " " 1838	69,285 13 3
" " " 1839	84,214 2 6
" " " 1840	97,225 18 1

Thus, in five years, the customs-receipts at Stockton-upon-Tees have nearly doubled! And there is a healthiness in the progressive increase which augurs favourably for the prospects of the port.—Jan. 9.

The Great North of England Railway was opened from Darlington to York, on Monday last, when an immense train of 101 carriages, drawn by four engines, traversed the whole line without a single mishap, either in its progress southward or northward.—Jan. 9.

We are now in the keen enjoyment (?) of a snow-storm, in this part of the island. The ground has a thick covering of snow, east, west, north, and south; and the frost is as biting as any enthusiastic skater can possibly desire. The Tyne, west of the bridge, will shortly be frozen over, if the frost continue. On Tuesday morning, at about twenty minutes to 9 o'clock, the inhabitants were started by the unexpected phenomenon of a flash of lightning, instantly followed by a loud "brattle" of thunder, in the midst of a heavy fall of snow and hail. On Thursday, *during the day*, the thermometer fell to 17 deg. of Fahrenheit, or 15 deg. below the freezing point.—Jan. 9.

DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY FROM HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM.

On Saturday, Mr. Condie, manager of Blair Iron Works, Ayrshire, performed this new and interesting phenomenon at the above works, in the presence of Ludovic Houston, Esq., of Johnstone, — Cunningham, Esq., of Carnbrae Iron Works, Thomas Wingate, Esq., engineer, Springfield, and a number of others, who were all highly satisfied with the accuracy of the accounts given by the public press of similar experiments having been made in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, upon locomotive engine boilers.—*Ayr Observer.*

Mr. Hugh Lee Patttinson, of Bensham, near Gateshead, whose first communication to the *Philosophical Magazine* was transferred to our columns, has transmitted a second paper, in which he observes :—

There is no doubt whatever, as Dr. Faraday conjectures in his note to Mr. Armstrong's paper in your last number, "that this evolution of electricity by vaporization is the same as that already known to philosophers on a much smaller scale." The electricity appears to originate at the instant of vaporization; and the steam as it collects within the boiler is electrified with positive electricity, the water and metallic boiler being at the same time negative. In this condition the electricity of both is latent, like the two plates of an excited electrophorus; but the instant steam is suffered to escape, its positive electricity, being carried off along with it, and out of the equivalent quantity of negative electricity in the boiler, becomes free, and hence the steam is electrical with positive electricity. The same thing takes place with the boiler, in which negative electricity is set at liberty as the steam escapes, and which becomes evident on insulating the boiler.

Mr. W. G. Armstrong, of Newcastle, has also communicated a second time with the editors of the *Philosophical Magazine*. Mr. A. says :—

The entire absence of negative electricity seemed to preclude the possibility of the phenomena arising from expansion; and the only remaining supposition appeared to be, that the condensation which took place in the jet, set free the electricity which the steam had absorbed in the process of evaporation.

Dr. Charles Schafhaeutl, writing on the same subject, makes the following remarks :—

The electricity in thunder-clouds seems likewise to arise from condensation. I had once the good fortune to be immersed in a thunder-cloud hovering round the summit of Mount Brenner in the Tyrol, having with me at the time a barometer, thermometer, hygroscope, and an electroscope. I saw the clouds forming around me on the summit of the mountain into vaporous bodies of an irregular roundish shape, which seemed to retain their form by an attractive force arising from the centre of each individual cloud, as they had not the slightest tendency to amalgamate with each other. The hygroscope close to the cloud was not at all affected, and only when immersed in the cloud it turned first a few degrees, indicating after a few minutes the highest degree of moisture, and sinking gradually back to its first point. This fluctuation continued as long as I had time to observe it. The electroscope was likewise not affected at all outside the cloud. Immersed in the cloud the gold leaves began gradually to separate, the barometer at the same time slightly rising, and after each discharge of lightning both instruments returned to their original state. From these observations it would appear that with every flash of lightning the cloud became exhausted of its electricity and recharged itself for each succeeding flash. The air in the cloud seems to move from the periphery to the centre, of the nature of a whirlwind, fluctuating with the leaves of the electroscope, and I had sufficient to witness twenty-one electric discharges from the cloud in which I was immersed, when the wind became so violent that the instruments were broken, and I was obliged to cling to the stump of a tree to save myself from being blown over the precipice; but the uproar around me was increasing and fluctuating with the electric discharges from the clouds, and the rapid alternations of wet and dry in the clouds, was during the whole time in exact coincidence with the electric discharges.

THE GATESHEAD DISTRICT VISITING SOCIETY.

On Sunday, January 3, 1841, Sermons will be preached in aid of the above Society. In the morning at

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St. Mary's, by the Rev. J. DAVIES, Rector; and in the evening by the Rev. H. BARRETT, Curate.

At Trinity Chapel a sermon will be preached in aid of the same object in the morning of the same day, by the Rev. T. SPECK, Curate.

Services to begin in the morning at a quarter before eleven, and in the evening at half-past six. The object of this society is to visit the poor at their own dwellings, for the purpose of promoting their temporal and spiritual welfare, by affording them relief in cases of sickness and severe destitution, and more especially by supplying them with the means of religious instruction, and engaging them to attend the public worship of God.

GATESHEAD MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

TWO LECTURES on COMBUSTION and RESPIRATION will be delivered in the Library of the Institution, in High-street, by R. M. GLOVER, Esq., M.D., on the evenings of Wednesday, the 13th, and Wednesday, the 20th January instant, to commence at 8 o'clock on each evening. Members will be admitted gratis: non-members on payment of 6d. each lecture.

HENRY BRADY, } Secretaries.
WILLIAM KELL, }

Gateshead, Jan. 8, 1841.

NOTICE TO THE BURGESSES OF NEWCASTLE.

MR. GEORGE STRAKER respectfully requests that the Burgesses of Newcastle will suspend their judgment regarding the enquiry instituted by the Town Council on Wednesday last, until the full Report of the proceedings prepared by Mr. Selkirk is published. The Report in the *Courant* is not sufficiently comprehensive to enable the Burgesses to form a correct conclusion. Mr. Straker will also, at an early period, lay before the public a statement of his views as to the mode in which the investigation was conducted.

Eldon-street, Newcastle, Jan. 15, 1841.

On Sunday, the sum of £3 12s. 6d. was collected for the Gateshead Dispensary, in the chapel of the Rev. A. B. Douglas, in this borough.—JAN. 16.

Upwards of 3000 pints of soup were dispensed from the soup-kitchen, Newcastle, on one day in this week, yet did not suffice to meet the demand. This evidence of the necessities of the poor, at this season of the year, should act as a stimulus to public benevolence.—JAN. 16.

Dr. Glover, of Newcastle, delivered the first of two lectures on Combustion and Respiration, before the members and friends of the Gateshead Mechanics' Institute, on Wednesday evening, when the room was crowded, and many ladies were present. The lecture was clear and interesting, and the illustrative experiments all successful: it was the lecture, in fact, of a man of science, fully master of his subject—and the audience evinced the liveliest satisfaction. The Doctor (whose services are gratuitous) will give his second lecture on Wednesday next.—JAN. 16.

A magistrate of this county, having read the *Observer's* report of the proceedings at the Moot Hall, Northumberland, on the 8th Jan., wishes us to state, that the Durham county-rate was—

In 1834	3½d.	In 1838	2d.
In 1835	2½d.	In 1839	3d.
In 1836	3d.	In 1840 (not yet collected), about	3d.
In 1837	2d.		

The members of the National Charter Association, Gateshead, met on Sunday, Jan. 10, at the usual hour. After receiving class accounts, they proceeded to the necessary arrangements for holding an out-door meeting, on Sunday morning next, in Oakwellgate, at half-past ten, when Mr. Deegan will deliver a lecture upon "morality," (should the weather admit). The members feel somewhat at a loss for a proper place in which to hold their meetings; but as our Saviour showed us the example of addressing the people from ships, &c., we are determined to imitate Him, as far as possible; and as the days of "physical force" addresses have gone by, we now call upon all men to come forward, and lend us assistance in establishing reading rooms, debating societies, &c., which will, in the end, relieve the people from moral bondage; and then it will be beyond the power of any Government to withhold political freedom. Our greatest help to gain freedom being morality, it would be well for all men to sign the pledge of abstinence from all intoxicating liquors. Then, again, we call upon you to attend the meeting on Sunday; and as soon as we can, we will procure a place in which to meet, both on Sundays and on other days.—*Correspondent.*

GATESHEAD POOR LAW UNION.—The fortnightly meeting was held on Tuesday, Jan 12, (Joseph Cowen, Esq., in the chair.) After the routine business had been gone through, the Chairman read a draft of a circular, to be sent to persons wanting money of the Union, requiring them to attend at the Board-room, and receive their money on production of the circular; and he suggested that the cheques should not be removed from the book, until the vouchers were produced, and the vouchers to be placed in the book in lieu of the cheques; which (although the Clerk expressed some doubts as to the propriety of the plan) seemed to be approved by the Board. The Chairman then read a letter from the Poor Law Commissioners, as follows:—

"Poor Law Commissioners' Office, Somerset House,
January 9, 1841.

"SIR,—The Poor Law Commissioners have had under their consideration the communication which you addressed to the Assistant Commissioner, Sir J. Walsham, dated the 30th ult., communicating the Report of the Finance Committee of Guardians of the Gateshead Union, of the result of the investigation made by them into the charge preferred against the Clerk to the Board of Guardians, of having misappropriated certain cheques, entrusted to him by the Guardians, for the purpose of paying some accounts due to Mr. Barras; which Report was unanimously agreed to by the Committee, and unanimously received and confirmed by the Board of Guardians.

"The Commissioners are not disposed to doubt the correctness of the opinion entertained by the Guardians, that the Clerk had no intention to appropriate the money to any other use than the payment of Mr. Barras's account. They fully approve, however, of the censure expressed by the Guardians on his conduct; and they shall regard any similar instance of irregularity, on the part of the Clerk, as too serious to admit of his retaining his office.

"The Commissioners have, moreover, to observe, that unless the Auditor performs his duty, the existence of his office is more than useless; for in that case it necessarily diminishes the vigilance of the Guardians, without substituting any other adequate protection of the ratepayer.

"As this is the first audit in which Mr. Hall has been engaged, the Commissioners make allowance for the omision on his part, which has occurred on this occasion. They trust, however, that he will not, by a repetition of the like neglect, render it necessary for the Commissioners to take into consideration the propriety of his continuing the Auditor of the Gateshead Union.

"Signed by order of the Board,
"E. CHADWICK, Secretary.

"J. Cowen, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Guardians,
Gateshead Union."

Mr. Rowntree admitted he had done wrong, but would again deny that he was influenced by any improper motive in doing what he did. He complained, also, of the manner in which the case had been treated by the Guardians. Mr. James Hymers thought such remarks from the Clerk were highly improper towards the Board. Mr. Kenmir wished that the matter connected with Mr. Hudson's money should be inquired into, as Mr. Hudson was in attendance to state the facts of the case: Mr. Joyce being also present, who had heard Mr. Hudson say that he had applied different times for the money, and had not received it. [Mr. Joyce said he had heard Mr. Hudson say so.] It seemed very strange to him (Mr. K.) that Mr. Hudson had not received his money until one year and eight months after the work was done. He would therefore press for Mr. Hudson's being heard. The Chairman thought it would be irregular to adopt Mr. Kenmir's request, without a resolution to that effect; and no notice had been given of one. Indeed, he could not see the utility of having Mr. Hudson present, as no decision could be come to—Mr. Joyce and Mr. Kenmir stating one thing, and Mr. Freeman the contrary. Mr. Kenmir said he would give notice of a motion, that Mr. Hudson be heard at the next meeting on the subject; and should his proposition be refused, he thought the appearance of the matter would be very awkward. Mr. Kenmir also required that the vouchers should be produced for the £40 for which the Clerk had received cheques. The Clerk said, that was a matter between the Building Committee and himself, the powers of the Board having been delegated to the Committee. Mr. Hymers denied that the power of inquiry was taken from the Board—the Board still having the right to

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examine and confirm all acts of the Committee; and he considered it was a bad sign, when inquiry was refused. Mr. Kenmir said he had seen an item in the accounts, for "sinking a well, *et cetera*," and he disapproved of such a mode of entering payments. The Chairman thought it best that the Building Committee should meet, prior to the next Board-meeting, and go into those accounts, and report to the Board—which was agreed to. Mr. Rowntree again complained of the treatment he had received from some members of the Board, who had given a one-sided account of the proceedings out of doors. He did not complain of inquiry, but complained of its being told out of doors all on one side, when he had no opportunity to defend himself. Mr. Kenmir thought the Clerk had better name the persons to whom he alluded—to which no answer was made. The subject dropped, and the meeting adjourned. We subjoin the Report of the Finance Committee, alluded to in the Commissioners' letter :—

"The Finance Committee beg to report to the Board, that in conformity with the wish of the last meeting of the Board, they have examined all the vouchers, for which cheques were drawn the last Board day, and have found them correct. They beg further to report, that they have carefully investigated the case of the Clerk's having retained three cheques, which were drawn in favour of Mr. Barras, amounting to £14 10s. The Clerk states that there was an account between him and Mr. Barras, and that the money was retained by him on that account, of which Mr. Barras and his clerk were aware. Mr. Foreman states, that he told Mr. Barras and his clerk, after the first cheque was drawn, and also after the second cheque was drawn, that Mr. Rowntree had the money; when Mr. Barras said, "Very well: Mr. Rowntree will call and settle the account." While the Committee, cannot but strongly censure the conduct of the Clerk in retaining the money, on the score of his private account with Mr. Barras, they are unanimously of opinion, that the Clerk had no intention to appropriate the money to any other use but the payment of Mr. Barras's account. The Committee have likewise heard the explanation of the Auditor, as to having passed the cheques without proper vouchers. He states that he examined the minute-book, cheque-book, and the bank-book, and found that the cheques had been paid, and passed to the proper account in the ledger; and it being his first audit, he entertained no doubt but the vouchers had been taken and filed by the Clerk. This appears irregular, and the Committee have requested the Auditor, on all future occasions, to see and examine every voucher, and to see that no account be passed without a proper voucher."

SIMILARITY OF THE ROUND TOWERS IN IRELAND WITH THOSE OF THE EAST.—So far back as the time of Giraldus, (in the twelfth century,) these monuments were considered very ancient; for this author mentions, that the fishermen on Loch Neagh were in the habit of pointing out to strangers the *sacred towers*—submerged, it was supposed, by the inundation which had formed the lake. This event is referred by Tigernach to A.D. 62; and this annalist supposes them to have been constructed at a period long anterior to Christianity. These remarkable towers have given rise to many conjectures as to their origin. The poinion of theirhaving been the temples of the Fire Worshippers is that which is most generally received, and seems borne out by several facts. Two towers were discovered, long ago, near Bhaugulpore, in Hindostan. These Indian temples, with their little round roofs—their four openings or windows near the summit, facing the four cardinal points—and their construction, in every particular, are exactly similar to the Round Towers in Ireland, and are, like them, considered to have belonged to a worship now extinct. The connection which seems to have existed between the worship of the sun and the science of astronomy, makes it likely that the four windows, or openings near the summit, were for the purpose of making astronomical observations. The Phœnicians themselves constructed edifices on the same plan; and in the temple of Tyre, in which were discovered the famous columns, dedicated to the wind and fire, there were also pedestals, upon the four sides of which (also facing the four cardinal points) were sculptured the four signs of the zodiac, which marked the position of the four points. There is every reason to suppose that the Round Towers of Ireland were constructed for the same purpose. After the many proofs which exist in the writings of antiquarians, of the union which formerly existed between Ireland and the East, there can be hardly a doubt as to the origin of the worship in Ireland, and of which these towers have remained as imperishable records.—*L'Echo du Monde Savant.*

COPYING OF OIL PAINTINGS.—M. Leipmann, (says *L'Echo du Monde Savant,*) whose discovery of a mode of copying oil paintings with the greatest exactitude, has been patronized by the Prussian Government, has brought his process to such perfection, that *fac similes* of the most beautiful oil-paintings, ancient or modern, of ordinary size, can be made, *by any person*, at the rate of fifty copies in six hours; and although hitherto it has been necessary to use canvas, the inventor expects, that, with a little modification, he will be able to make card, or paper, equally available for the purpose. The Prussian Government is desirous of purchasing the invention, in order to make it public—an example worthy of imitation elsewhere.

DEATHS.——In this borough, in Grosvenor-street, on the 7th inst., aged 40, Ann, relict of the late Mr. Jabez Hood, spirit merchant. At the house of Joseph Smith, Esq., Gateshead Low Fell, on the 11th inst., in his 74th year, universally lamented, Mr. William Joyce. At the High Felling, on the 8th inst., aged 89, much respected, Henry Hemsley.—JAN. 16.

SOLIDIFICATION OF CARBONIC ACID GAS.
FATAL EXPLOSION OF THE APPARATUS.

THE wonderful experiment by which M. Thilorier reduces air to a solid substance, has recently given rise, in Paris, to a most deplorable accident. The experiment of M. Thilorier consists in placing, in a metallic reservoir of strong construction, the materials which are necessary for the production of carbonic acid gas, and in receiving this gas in a metallic cylinder of equal strength. The apparatus is then hermetically sealed; and as the gas is generated, it becomes gradually more and more compressed, until, at length, it assumes the form of a liquid, and finally of a solid substance, resembling snow in appearance.

Some idea of the force employed may be formed when we state, that the pressure to which the gas is submitted amounts, at least, to that of 150 atmospheres.

M. Thilorier has performed his experiment in all parts of Europe more than 500 times, without the slightest accident, until the 31st of December last. M. Thilorier, who proposed to exhibit the process before the pupils of the School of Pharmacy, was making a preparatory experiment in the private laboratory, assisted by M. Hervy and another person. M. Thilorier had just passed into a neighbouring apartment, when a dreadful explosion took place: the apparatus had given way, like a bomb-shell, under the force of the compressed gas. M. Hervy was driven through a closet door with inconceivable force: both his legs broken, and his body otherwise injured. The assistant was thrown prostrate on the floor, but received no material injury. Everything in the laboratory was destroyed. M. Hervy was instantly carried to La Pitié, where M. Lisfranc amputated one of his legs; but, we regret to say, he died on the 3d instant.

Two days previously to this accident, M. Orfila had performed the experiment in the presence of 1,200 pupils, and it had also been repeated before the class at the Sorbonne. The French chemists announce their intention of never again performing the experiment before any number of persons. The apparatus used by M. Thilorier had been frequently employed before. Every precaution had been taken; but it is well known that metallic apparatus sometimes give way under certain circumstances of temperature, &c., without our being able to discover the cause of the misfortune.—*Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.*

Mr. Deegan delivered a lecture, on Sunday last, in Gateshead, to a good company of working men, (Mr. Cross in the chair). During the lecture, he dwelt at great length on the principles of total abstinence. He also read from the *Star*, the address of the Total Abstinence Charter Association of Scotland, which did great credit to that body, the manner in which they conduct the movement being praiseworthy. Mr. Deegan remarked, he had great pleasure in stating, that almost every individual who took any leading part in the present movement in this county, was a total abstainer; and although they had hadmany difficulties to contend with—still, the moral example of those men was gaining ground in the public mind, and inducing many to become teetotallers, who otherwise might not have been. Of the cheering state of Hartlepool, which he had visited during the week, the lecturer gave a pleasing report; and he stated that it was his intention to lecture in Gateshead every Sunday morning, which, he hoped, might do some good, in elevating the minds of the working classes. At the conclusion of the lecture, a resolution was passed as follows :—"That

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it is the opinion of this meeting, that all the efforts of the people to obtain substantial reform in the administration of the national affairs, have hitherto failed, in consequence of the people not being fully, fairly, and freely represented in the Commons' House of Parliament; and, furthermore, that this meeting, being of opinion that every man has a just and equal right to every political privilege, deem it its duty to express its determination, not only not to countenance, but to oppose, any agitation for any extension of the suffrage short of universal suffrage, as defined in the People's Charter." This resolution was signed by the Chairman, and given to Mr. Deegan to carry to Leeds; after which, four new members were enrolled, and the meeting separated. As lectures will be given every Sunday morning, it is hoped as many will attend as can: they will be better entertained than at the ale bench.—*Correspondent.*—JAN. 23.

The ball for the benefit of the Gateshead Dispensary is fixed for the 10th of February—and we trust it will be a bumper. We mention it thus early, in order that the friends of the Dispensary (and who would not be its friend?) may not make other engagements for that evening. Every ticket that is sold, it should be remembered, is a representative of health—every contribution to the ball may be the means of alleviating the pangs, or, perchance, saving the life of some poor sufferer.

The endeavours of the inhabitants of Gateshead Fell, to benefit our excellent Dispensary, have successfully terminated; and a sum of £30 has been paid to the Treasurer, as the proceeds of the oratorio, after the payment of all expenses. Great praise is due to those who have exerted their vocal and instrumental talents, to the relief of their suffering brethren, and the enjoyment of the vast multitude which thronged the church; while we express our gratification at having seen so many friends collected together from remote distances, and at the decorum and order with which every thing was conducted.

The *Newcastle Journal*, ever unscrupulous when it has an object to serve, published, last week, the following unprincipled paragraph:—

"MR. W. ROWNTREE'S DELINQUENCY.—The committee appointed to investigate into the alleged improper appropriation of money belonging to the Gateshead Poor Law Union, by Mr. William Rowntree, the Clerk, delivered in their report to the Guardians, who deemed it their duty to forward the document to the Poor Law Commissioners in London. The Somerset House trio, in the plenitude of their liberality, determined to overlook the serious offence in the present instance, but admonished Mr. Rowntree that on a repetition of it he would be discharged forthwith. This is a very lenient sentence for so grave a transgression; but it is not improbable that some intercession or representation may have been made to the Commissioners by Mr. Rowntree, or some of his influential political friends."

Any person, unacquainted with the facts, would suppose, from the foregoing paragraph, that the Guardians had convicted their Clerk of delinquency, and spontaneously brought his conduct before the Commissioners; and that the "Somerset House trio" had thrown their shield over Mr. Rowntree, through some political influence. But what is the true state of the case? Sir John Walsham, the Assistant Commissioner, on learning (from the *Gateshead Observer* and *Newcastle Journal*) that an investigation had been instituted into certain proceedings of the Clerk, wrote to the Guardians, requesting that he might receive a copy of the Committee's Report, to be laid before the Commissioners. The Committee's Report was accordingly transmitted to him, acquitting Mr. Rowntree of meditating any "delinquency," but censuring his conduct as improper; and Sir John sent the Report to Somerset House. The Commissioners stated, in reply, that "they were not disposed to doubt the correctness of the opinion entertained by the Guardians, that the Clerk had no intention to appropriate the money to any other use than the payment of Mr. Barras's account;" but "they fully approved of the censure expressed by the Guardians on his conduct, and should regard any similar instance of irregularity, on the part of the Clerk, as too serious to admit of his retaining his office." We leave it to all candid readers to decide, whether these facts, so artfully misrepresented by the *Journal*, justify our contemporary's strictures on the "Somerset House trio."

We regret to have to record the death of Capt. Hutt, brother of our much-respected neighbour, William Hutt, Esq., M.P. The melancholy intelligence is thus communicated in the *Bombay Times* of Dec. 1:—"On the 19th of November, on route from Rajcote to Gogo, Captain Richard Hutt, 10th Regiment, N.I., in his 37th year. Few knew the real talent and high soldierlike feelings of this lamented officer, whose amiable character, and strong attachment to his friends, will very long fix him in their memory. He was greatly beloved by his brother officers."

Dr. Glover delivered his second and concluding lecture at the Gateshead Mechanics' Institute, on Wednesday evening. Mr. F. Bennett moved a vote of thanks to the Doctor for his valuable and gratuitous services. Mr. W. L. Harle seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation. Dr. Glover, in acknowledging the compliment, liberally intimated that he would probably accede to a wish expressed by Mr. Bennett, and deliver another course of lectures to the institution—an intimation which was received with warm applause. Mr. G. H. Hardy, we understand, will shortly lecture before the members and their friends.—JAN. 23.

The Newcastle and North Shields Railway, we are glad to find by the report of the Directors, published in the *Newcastle Chronicle*, is in a prosperous state. It has been attended with no accident since its opening—it has yielded a five per cent. dividend for the first year, and out of *bona fide* profits, (a circumstance hardly precedented in railway history,) and the dividend declared at the annual meeting on Thursday last, was at the rate of six. The prospects of improving profits are well founded—the number of passengers gradually increasing—depôts for coal for home-supply being in great forwardness—and the establishment being conducted at the smallest possible charge. The Directors properly recommend co-operation on the part of the Company with any central body that may be formed, for obtaining a reduction of the railway duty, and generally for the protection of the railway-interest from the injustice with which, we regret to say, it is not infrequently threatened. We subjoin a statement, showing the increase in the passengers of the last half-year of 1840, over those of the corresponding period of 1839:—

From 30th June to 31st Dec., 1839	336,619
From 30th June to 31st Dec., 1840	415,653
Increase in 1840	79,031
Total number of passengers conveyed in 1840	752,045

Mr. Peter Bussey, now in New York, addressed a letter to the editor of the *Northern Star*, from that city, as follows:—

SIR,—I received a copy of your paper of the 24th of October, in which I find a letter from Mr. Joseph Crabtree, now a prisoner in Wakefield house of correction for an alleged political offence, wherein I find an allusion to myself, in language (considering my position across the Atlantic) of a cowardly and malicious character, insinuating that I betrayed poor Frost. He knew I was not in England, otherwise *the correspondent of the Secretary of State* would not have dared to have done it. But, sir, if you dare to allow me in your columns to write the history of that period, I shall feel a pleasure in doing so; and not only that, but shall be enabled to do justice to myself and others connected with me on that occasion. He says that there are six individuals from Bradford in the same prison, who do not understand what the term Chartist means. I tell him and you, sir, that had some persons now suffering taken my advice, they would have been out of prison, and with their families. I told them that spies were amongst them; and *I tell them now that they have* SPIES *amongst them, and some are sure to be betrayed.*

In conclusion, let me add, that should you object to my proposed publication, I will publish it here in the shape of a pamphlet, and send it to England for distribution. I am, sir, yours respectfully,

No. 2, Front-street, New York. PETER BUSSEY.

The *Northern Star* having refused to insert this letter, it was carried (by Mr. Bussey's agent in the matter) to the *Leeds Times*—from which paper we transfer it to our columns.

HOW TO "PUT DOWN" A CHARTIST MEETING.—The Chartists, in the neighbourhood of Newport, advertised a meeting the other day. With the memory of last year's outbreak fresh upon their minds, the magistrates were alarmed, and made preparations to prevent a repetition of the same violence. The special constables were sworn in, the Rifle Brigade were under arms in the barracks, and arrangements made to communicate with the dragoons at Cardiff, who were ready to march at a moment's notice. But all these preparations were rendered of none effect. The knife was doing the sabre's work—not in the Italian or Spanish fashion, but in the good old English manner, assisted by the fork. The Chartists were being "bombarded" with good meats, as the Lords ought to be with good measures. They were being *blown* out by the kitchen fire, as the Egyptians were *blown up* by the fire of our

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ships at Acre. In short, to use plain language, we read, that "several of the iron-masters in the hills roasted oxen and sheep for their men, so as to make them *comfortable*, and keep them away from the meeting." Sensible persons those same iron-masters! They showed their knowledge of human nature on this occasion, and they set a laudable example to all the higher classes in the country. They hit upon the true secret for preserving peace and order. They made their men COMFORTABLE.—*Liverpool Albion.*

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE. The following comparative table of the revenues of England and France for the year just expired is given by the *Quotidienne.* It is obtained for the former country from the official published returns, and for the latter from the budget for 1840. The sums are in francs, 24 of which are equal to a pound sterling.

	England.	France.
Customs	493,858,500	168,195,000
Stamps of all kinds	165,897,550	225,150,200
Excise in direct taxes	314,384,300	230,720,000
Direct and assessed taxes	98,661,100	392,764,951
Postoffice	11,025,000	45,188,000
Crown lands	4,187,500	
Public instruction		4,165,500
Various products	4,942,900	11,308,900
Loans and repayments	26,113,000	
Extraordinary means		57,255,292
Woods and fisheries		34,577,632
Total	1,118,600,000	1,184,523,365

THE RIVER WEAR COAL VEND.—On Wednesday, Jan. 20, the vend of coals, in the concluding half-year of 1840, was sworn as under, by the several staithmen, before the Commissioners of the Wear. The first column gives the coal consumed by glass-houses, &c., duty-free: the second, the coal shipped and chargeable with duty.

	chal.	chal.
Trustees of the Marquis of Londonderry:—		
Pensher	813	1,503
Wearmouth		10,790
The Countess of Durham	1871	65,831
The Hetton Coal Company	2486	50,098
William Russell, Esq., & Co.	1054	376
Morton John Davison, Esq.		9,162
Henry Stobart, Esq., & Partners	5251	33,352
William Bell, Esq., & Partners, Shield Row Colliery		8,474
Messrs. Pemberton & Co.	342	9,435
The Haswell Coal Company		29,139
The Belmont ditto		11,176
The North Hetton ditto		3,328
William Bell, Esq., & Co., Shincliffe Colliery		7,102
The Whitwell Coal Company		17,071
Kepier Colliery		3,425
COALS SHIPPED IN THE NORTH DOCK.		
Trustees of the Marquis of Londonderry		264
Shotley Main Colliery		223
Townley Main Colliery		
Windsor's Tanfield Colliery		
Windsor's Pontop Colliery, Lanchester Wallsend Colliery, Medomsley Wallsend Colliery		1,777
Hedley's Wallsend Colliery		4,701
Sacristan Colliery		793
Down Colliery		686
Total	11,817	268,706

We give, in addition, the comparative vends from 1825 to 1840, inclusive, as below:—

Year.	First Six Months.	Second Six Months.	Total.
1825	239,187	262,856	502,043
1826	238,836	279,449	518,285
1827	227,283	266,387	493,670
1828	233,947	266,654	500,601
1829	259,081	305,847	564,928
1830	231,091	292,466	523,557
1831	197,343	276,580	473,923
1832	205,387	248,878	454,265
1833	248,665	260,413¼	509,078¼
1834	193,066	226,473	419,539
1835	180,298	230,574	410,872
1836	197,813	238,192¼	436,005¼
1837	228,425¼	274,004	502,429¼
1838	205,450	276,644	482,094
1839	214,856	209,101	483,957
1840	228,840	268,706	497,546

WALTER *v* EARL OF THANET.—In this case, the particulars of which we gave a few weeks ago, the Attorney-General moved for a new trial on the 14th inst., in the Court of Queen's Bench. The action was on a promissory note given by the defendant in 1803, when he was a young man, under an agreement not to avail himself of the statute of limitations, but to discharge his obligation when he became of ability to pay. The note was originally endorsed to the father of the plaintiff, now dead. The son, it was stated on the trial, had considered the note to be of no value, believing the defendant also to be dead, till he accidentally learned that the defendant and the present Earl of Thanet were one and the same person. He then brought his action, and the defendant pleaded, first, the statute of limitations—second, that he had not signed the agreement. The verdict, however, went against him; and now the Attorney General, on behalf of his lordship, moved for a new trial, on the ground that the plaintiff ought to have applied for payment when the defendant became of ability to pay; that the statute of limitations began to run from that time; and as that event occurred more than six years ago, the plaintiff was now barred by the statute from maintaining this action. The Court took time to consider the question.

GROWTH OF COTTON IN AMERICA.—The great event of the year is the marvellous increase in the growth of cotton in the United States. In order to exhibit this important fact in its true magnitude and proportions, it is necessary to take a retrospective glance at the question of crops for several years past. Beginning, then, with the year 1830, it will be seen that the crop of

1830—31	was 1,038,848 bales.	Increase	6¼ per cent.
1831—32	was 987,477 bales.	Decrease	5 per cent.
1832—33	was 1,070,428 bales.	Increase	8¼ per cent.
1833—34	was 1,205,384 bales.	Increase	3¼ per cent.
1834—35	was 1,254,321 bales.	Increase	4 per cent.
1835—36	was 1,360,725 bales.	Increase	8¼ per cent.
1836—37	was 1,422,930 bales.	Increase	4½ per cent.
1837—38	was 1,801,497 bales.	Increase	26¼ per cent.
1838—39	was 1,360,532 bales.	Decrease	24¼ per cent.
1839—40	was 2,177,835 bales.	Increase	60 per cent.

DEATHS.——In this borough, on the 17th inst., aged 77, Mr. Robert Scott, formerly timber-merchant. On the 18th inst., Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. John Cameron.—JAN. 23.

TO THE SURVEYORS OF THE HIGHWAYS OF THE PARISH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned Rated Inhabitants of this Parish, request you to call a PUBLIC MEETING of the Ratepayers, to take into consideration the propriety of declaring the Road leading from the Hexham Turnpike Road, Windmill Hills, to the South End of Sedgewick-place, to be a Public Parish Road; and to determine what sum shall be paid by the Owners and Occupiers of Property, adjoining the said Road, as Compensation.

J. Honeyman	John Freeman	Thomas Scott
William Angus	Matthew Hewson	Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Cummins	George Pringle	Edward Story
William Rowntree	Thomas Parkinson	John Featherston
John Lister, jun.	Joseph Barnard	Walker Swan
Joseph T. Angus	George Emmerson	Joseph Clephan
James Wilkin	Robert C. Young	Joseph Thompson
C. F. Springmann	Forster Walker	Thomas Angus
John Geldard	Daniel Oliver, jun.	Bryan John Prockter
John Cooke	Michael Hobson	William Kenmir
John Usher	Richard Young	John Davidson
Joseph Kimpster	Robert Carr	John Hodgson
John Angus	Samuel Tyzack	Andrew Atchison.
David Scott	William Robinson	

We, the undersigned, do hereby call a MEETING of the RATEPAYERS of the Parish of Gateshead, to be held at the Vestry of St. Mary's Church, at 12 o'clock, on THURSDAY, the 4th of February, for the above purpose.

F. W. STANLEY,
SAMUEL E. PEARSE,
THOMAS SOWERBY,
PETER JAMES MAIN, } Surveyors of the Highways.

Gateshead, Jan. 26, 1841.

GATESHEAD UNION.—On Tuesday, Jan. 26, after the usual routine buisness of the Board was transacted, the following Report was presented by the Building Committee:—"At a meeting of the Building Committee, held on the 19th January, 1841, (present, Messrs. Joseph Cowen, Joseph Robson, John Allen, Joshua Watson, and Henry Sanderson):—That they have examined the vouchers produced by the Clerk, to account for the expenditure of the sum of forty pounds, which they found to be perfectly correct; and by which it appears

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that there is a balance due to the Clerk of £3 1s. 3d. That the sum expended upon the purchase of land, and the erection of the new workhouse, up to the 25th of December last, amounted to the sum of £3,316 12s., and that the balance in the Treasurer's hands, belonging to the Building Fund, was £823 15s. 5d.; but the committee regret, that, in consequence of the severity of the weather, and other causes, the work is not so far advanced as they could have wished; and although it has been urged upon the contractors to proceed as rapidly as possible, they fear it will not be ready for occupation before the 1st of May next.——JOSEPH COWEN, Chairman."

John Taylor, of Willington, pitman, aged 33, fell from the pit-head on the 22d Jan., and was killed.

Peter Sherricks, of this borough, hung himself on Wednesday night, in a fit of intoxication. Yesterday, an inquest was held, at the Blue Bell, Pipewellgate. Verdict, "Temporary insanity."—JAN. 30.

Yesterday morning, about one o'clock, a fire broke out in the naptha-manufactory of Mr. Thorburn, at the Felling Shore, on the Tyne, near this borough, and the premises were nearly destroyed. The fire originated in the accidental ignition of the naptha, though the incaution of a workman. The buildings were not extensive, and £100 will almost cover the whole of the damage.—JAN. 30.

"TYNE BRIDGE A NUISANCE."—Under this head, a letter appears in the *Durham Chronicle*, calling attention to the "child traps" on Tyne Bridge, which we have so frequently pointed out, and protested against. The writer says:—"I had previously heard of the dangerous state of the battlement at the south end of Tyne bridge; but never until I passed the place yesterday, had I any idea of the alarming appearance presented by its actual condition. Two or more balustrades are gone, leaving gaps of startling width, with scarcely two feet height of stone from the flagging; so that any child might overreach itself, and fall into the deep and rushing current below. A bridge in such a condition would disgrace any township of the county. How abominable is it, then, for the only connection between two such towns as Newcastle and Gateshead, to be permitted to exist, month after month, in such a state!" A child, as our readers know, *did* fall into "the deep and rushing current," and was only saved from death by the intrepidity of a casual passer-by. We have stated, over and over again, that the law has provided a special fund for the maintenance of the parapet, and our assertion has never been gainsaid. Why is it that the trustees of this fund obstinately persist in their determination to leave the "bridge in a condition which would disgrace any township in the county?" The writer in the *Chronicle* (to whom much credit is due for his public spirit,) suggests that the Gateshead Council should "see to it;" and "if not, the inhabitants should call a borough meeting, and proceed against the parties who are liable to make the repairs, for a nuisance." Is there no member of the Newcastle Council, who will take this matter in hand? It is that body, we believe, upon whom the obligation rests. Why are they so negligent of their duty?

We are glad to hear that a site has been purchased for the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms, and that the building will be proceeded with, with the greatest dispatch. If this spirited conduct of our southern neighbours do not stir up the natives of the more ancient and more important portion of our borough, to the erection of a suitable building for public purposes, we should regard the public spirit of Gateshead as having almost taken flight. We still think the subject only requires to be begun, to be carried into effect.

The oratorio, lately announced, under the patronage of Lord and Lady Ravensworth, and the families resident in the neighbourhood, for the benefit of the Gateshead Dispensary, took place on Thursday Jan. 14th, in St. John's church, Gateshead Fell, the Bishop of Durham having kindly granted his permission for the use of the edifice on the occasion. We are happy to state that the charitable experiment was attended with complete success. The church was filled—the performances gave the greatest satisfaction—and the funds of the charity, to a certainty, will receive a considerable augmentation. The choir of St. John's were ably assisted by those of St. Nicholas, Newcastle; and even at the risk of appearing invidious, (which our neighbours of the Fell we know will excuse,) we feel it right to particularize the able services of Mrs. Leybourne and Mr. Small. The native talent was no less remarkable; but we deem it greater justice, when all were so deserving, not to particularize. The origin of the oratorio, we understand, is due to Mr. Thomas Nealson, a much respected and zealous inhabitant of the Fell; and to the worthy Rector and his lady, (whose labours of charity we have frequently felt pleasure in recording,) is to be attributed, in a great degree, the successful carrying out of Mr. Nealson's happy suggestion. The church was extremely comfortable, well lighted, and tastefully decorated with evergreens, according to the custom of the place.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTHERN ASYLUM FOR THE BLIND AND THE DEAF AND DUMB, PRESENTED JAN. 22, 1841, AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

IN presenting to the Subscribers an Account of their proceedings during the past year, the Committee of the Northern Asylum for the Blind, and the Deaf and Dumb, cannot forbear to express their gratitude to the Author of all Good for the measure of success with which he has been pleased to crown their exertions in the behalf of the afflicted, and in many instances destitute beings, who, through your bounty, have been confided to their especial care.

Since the publication of the last Report nineteen inmates have been admitted, of whom *nine* are blind, and *ten* deaf and dumb, making a total of forty-four individuals, consisting of *nineteen* of the former, and *twenty five* of the latter class; two of these have, however, left the Asylum, viz.:—a blind man, who, having learnt the trade of basket making, has gone to exercise his calling in his native town; and a deaf and dumb girl, whose parents required her services at home, after she had been partially instructed in your school; so that no less than forty-two, children and adults, who, but for the Divine blessing upon your benevolence, might have remained in a state of hopeless ignorance and destitution, are now the happy inmates of your Asylum—the children intelligent and cheerful, the more advanced in years industrious and contented, whilst all who are capable of appreciating the blessings they enjoy, seem deeply sensible of the obligations they are under to you their benefactors, and desirous of making the best returns in their power for the kindness you have shown them.

Your Committee would particularly direct your attention to an interesting feature which has developed itself in the course of their proceedings, that is, the practicability of rational intercourse being maintained between the blind and the deaf and dumb, when they are associated under the same roof—a fact, which, however incredible it may appear, has nevertheless become the subject of daily observation in your Asylum, where, during the hours of recreation, the deaf and dumb children are frequently seen holding an animated conversation with the blind, by means of the finger alphabet. Nay, more than this, the deaf and dumb sometimes read to their blind companions. It is done in this way—the deaf and dumb child spells the words from a book placed before him, upon the fingers of the child who is blind, and he repeats them audibly. Thus, without the aid of any other instructor, may one whose visual organs are impervious to the glorious light of day, have his soul illumined by the still more glorious light of Divine Revelation, and his mental faculties improved by the infusion of useful knowledge, imparted by the fingers of his silent monitor.

The various branches of trade taught in the Asylum, are Mattress, Basket, and Mat Making; to which may be added Twine Spinning, and the Preparation of Horse Hair for the Use of Upholsterers. In these arts some of the blind men have attained to a considerable degree of proficiency, so that, in many respects, their work is found to equal that of persons whose sight is perfect. The young women and girls are employed in Fancy Work, some of which is exceedingly beautiful. A work-bag made by one of them (Margaret Dixon,) has been forwarded through the Duchess of Sutherland to Her Majesty the Queen, whose gracious acceptance and approval of the same was signified to the Committee by the Viscount Morpeth, one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and a Vice-President to the Northern Asylum.

Your Committee have great pleasure in reporting that the conduct of the inmates has been uniformly good; those who are Members of the Church of England are conducted to the Parish Church on the Lord's Day, whilst the rest are permitted to attend their respective places of worship.

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With respect to the Master, Mr. Patterson, and the Matron, Miss Steavenson, your Committee are satisfied that they, in their respective departments, have conscientiously and zealously laboured to promote the welfare of the institution, and that they are in every respect entitled to a continuance of your confidence and approbation.

Of the Assistant Matron (Miss Johnson), who is chiefly employed in teaching the blind children and superintending the work of the girls, under the direction of the Matron, your Committee must also mention that her assistance has been found exceedingly valuable, and that she evinces a disposition to be generally useful.

The deaf and dumb children are instructed in the different branches of education and domestic duties suitable to their condition: those who evince a talent for drawing or mechanics are encouraged to cultivate it, and, with a view to this, they are furnished with the necessary materials; and a turning lathe has been procured, of which one of the boys, at least, makes a profitable use.

The blind children, being instructed in reading, arithmetic, basket-making, sewing, &c., commit to memory large portions of the Sacred Scriptures, Hymns, and other poetry. Your Committee consider it a desideratum to have them taught music and singing, and this they propose to effect as soon as circumstances permit such an application of a portion of the funds.

Your Committee desire to return thanks to the Rev. Thomas Baker, Rector of Whitburn, for his efficient advocacy of the cause of the institution in two impressive sermons preached by him in Sunderland Church; and to the Rev. Wm. Webb, Rector of Sunderland, for kindly granting the use of his pulpit to Mr. Baker for the occasion. Their best acknowledgments are also due to the Rev. Archibald Hunter, assistant minister of the Scotch Church in the Groat-market, for his eloquent appeal, and the subsequent collection made at his chapel in aid of the funds of this Asylum.

To the Tynemouth and North Shields Ladies' Association, your institution is deeply indebted for their zealous co-operation, which has already procured a considerable accession to your funds. In adverting to this *first* auxiliary to the Northern Asylum, your Committee trust that the praiseworthy example of the ladies who compose it will be speedily imitated by such ladies as are friendly to the institution, not only in Newcastle, but likewise in all the leading towns of the four Northern Counties.

Your Committee also are happy in offering their willing testimony to the zeal and fidelity with which your Chaplain the Rev. H. W. Wright, has discharged the responsible duties of his sacred office, and the interest which he manifests for the spiritual welfare of the inmates of the Asylum. Your Committee cannot here forbear to notice the kindness of Messrs. Baird & Talmadge, surgeons, who have afforded their gratuitous services at all times whenever the inmates happened to require medical or surgical aid.

Prior to the inmates leaving the Asylum for the Christmas vacation, your Committee judged it expedient to have a public examination of the pupils in the Music Hall, Mr. Patterson having kindly consented to deliver a lecture on the education of the deaf and dumb, in which he embodied some excellent remarks on that of the blind. The lecture and examination created a considerable degree of interest, and were listened to by a numerous and most respectable auditory, to the greater part of whom the mode of teaching the deaf and dumb was a novelty, and who expressed both surprise and delight at the rapid progress which the pupils had made under Mr. Patterson's able tuition.

Feeling that the institution must derive great benefit from public examinations of this kind, your Committee have determined to hold one every half year, immediately before the vacation.

Your Committee must not omit to inform you, that not long since they presented a memorial to the Corporation of Newcastle, praying for a grant of money for the purposes of the institution—in consequence of which the Council proposed to act the part of meditator between this Asylum and the Royal Victoria Asylum, with a view of effecting a union; and have appointed a special committee for that purpose, which committee has opened a negotiation with your Committee and that of the Victoria Asylum, but as yet nothing has transpired which would justify your Committee in bringing the subject before you in the shape of a distinct proposition.

Your Committee, notwithstanding the general prosperity of your institution, regret that the necessary expenditure of the year that has just elapsed will be found to exceed the actual income. This may be accounted for by the fact, that subscriptions to a considerable amount remain as yet unpaid, that many of the inmates have been supported wholly at the cost of the institution; and that even in some cases where payment for children might reasonably have been expected, it has not been forthcoming; and also that a large stock of the work of the blind remains unsold—a state of affairs, which, although by no means desirable, may, as your Committee trust that it will, ultimately prove beneficial, as they cannot doubt that the knowledge of it will incite the friends of the institution to renewed, and even increased, exertions for its prosperity.

THE COAL TRADE.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE SHIPOWNERS OF SUNDERLAND.

A MEETING of the shipowners of Sunderland was held in the Commission Room, Exchange Buildings, yesterday forenoon, at 11 o'clock, (CALEB WILSON, Esq., in the chair.) pursuant to adjournment from the 8th of January. On Wednesday, the 27th inst., an official notice had been issued, bearing the signature of Mr. J. P. Kidson, the Secretary of the Sunderland Shipowners' Society, and announcing that a communication from the coalowners would be laid before the meeting, intimating "the abandonment of the rotation-system in the sale of coals in London."

There was only a shy master of shipowners, it having become pretty generally known that the coalowners had acceded to the request submitted to their consideration.

Mr. KIDSON, at the desire of the Chairman, read the letter which he had received, viz.:—

Coal Trade Office, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Jan. 25, 1841.

SIR,—I have the honour of stating to you, for the information of the shipowners of Sunderland, that, at a general meeting of the coalowners of the river Tyne, Wear, Tees, Hartley, and Blyth, held here on Saturday, the 23d inst., it was unanimously resolved, that the present system of selling coals by rotation in the port of London, should be discontinued. I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. P. Kidson, Esq., &c. ROBERT WM. BRANDLING, Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN observed, that this letter was decisive. The "gas coals" of the Tyne would no longer have any advantage in the Thames over the coals of the Wear.

Mr. HARRISON stated, that he knew, from experience, that the new system had come into operation. He had received a letter from London, informing him that one of his ships had sold her coals on arrival. A ship had now only to wait its turn for a meter.

Mr. PENMAN wished to know whether the rotation-system had been entirely abolished, or merely modified. He had been informed, that unless a certain price could be obtained, there would still be some restriction on the sale of coals.

The CHAIRMAN: The letter from the Coal Trade Office is decisive.—There is no reservation, so far as the coalowners are concerned: and if the factors impose any restrictions, which are at all objectionable, they are your servants, and you will call upon them for explanation.

Mr. HARRISON said, that factors might detain coal, thinking the price insufficient; and if there was no other detention than what arose from a regard to the interests of the shipowners, then the factors would be entitled to thanks. For himself, he knew of no restrictions.

Mr. MOON wished to say a few words, before the meeting was dissolved. The coalowners had complied with the request of the shipowners; and now came the question, What was to follow? This was a serious consideration for the shipowner. Who was to bear the brunt of the altered state of things, if there was to be a loss? The coalowners protected themselves by combination, and the resolutions which they passed they compelled the shipowners to obey. The shipowners, he was sorry to say, were less alive to their own interests. This was evident from the thin attendance at the present meeting. The interests of the shipowners were as important, and ought to be as dear to them, as the interests of the coalowners. He was not an advocate for lowering either wages or prices; but if there should be a great depression of prices in London, and if wages, provisions, &c., were kept up at the same time, how was the shipowner to meet his difficulties? There ought to be a meeting of shipowners, to regulate wages, and everything that came against their vessels. If prices were to be lowered at the other end, were shipowners to submit to the prices at this? The coalowners, he repeated, protected themselves by combination. It was natural they should do so. And the shipowners should do the same, and not stand single-handed. If there were no union, one ship would sign for one thing, and another ship for another. Some regulation should emanate from a general meeting of shipowners, or from the society, in case there should be reductions in London, and serious losses. He had no objections to keeping up the prices here, if they were only kept up in London. But if the factors bundled off the coal as fast as they could, and brought down prices, such an alteration must be met by the shipowners, in one way or another. If the coalowners were determined to keep up the prices at this end as at present, the shipowners should come to some conclusion as to what was to be done; or, if there were no union amongst them, their interests would be sacrificed. He repeated, he was

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no advocate for lowering prices or wages, if there were only some regulations. The sailors, he was aware, stated that they were better off when wages were £3 a voyage, and there was no regulation, than they were under the regulation-system; and it must be expected, that if prices came down, wages must come down also. How the altered state of affairs was to be met, he knew not; but it was certain that something must be done.

Mr. Buchanan: Ships not being so long over their voyages as before, of course the wages per voyage will come down.

Mr. Moon: The shipowners must know what the coalowners intended to do, before they could come to any decision. All that they stated in their letter was, that the rotation-system in London was abandoned. They did not say what they intended to do at this end.

Mr. Harrison: The coalowners would sell the shipowners their coal at such prices as they would pay. If the shipowners would not give the coalowners' price, the latter must sell where they could. The wages of seamen were not raised on account of the price of coals, but through the detention in London. If voyages now occupied less time, wages would come down as a matter of course. Wages would regulate themselves, independent of the price of coals. The prices in London were still very fair, and he did not anticipate that there would be any great change. Hitherto, there had been detention at the other end: it was probable that there would now be detention at this. The coalowners would no doubt continue to restrict the supply of coal.

The Chairman said, that things would find their own level. If the coalowners could not obtain from the shipowners the prices they required, they would then, most probably, freight themselves.—Before the meeting separated, he had to call their attention to a subject of some importance. Three anchors had been found by the diving bell; and it was desirable that every shipowner who had lost an anchor, should give every possible information on the subject, that search might be made, and the anchor found; because, however many might be the anchors removed, if even two or three were left, valuable vessels might be lost, by striking upon them. He had also to state, that there were several mooring-chains lying on the engineer's ground, near the pier, for the inspection of parties who had lost them. Any person, therefore, who had lost chains, should visit the engineer's ground.

There being no other business to bring before the meeting, thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.—Jan. 30.

W. DOUGLAS,

PRINTER, PUBLISHER, AND BOOKBINDER,

OBSERVER OFFICE, GATESHEAD,

BEGS to tender his best thanks to his Friends and the Public, for the many favours conferred on him during the time he has been in business, and also to inform them, that he has added largely to his already extensive stock of Plain and Fancy PRINTING TYPES; and that he has also purchased other PRESSES, and also an additional PRINTING MACHINE, of the newest construction, capable of producing, with the greatest ease, *one thousand impressions per hour*—thus enabling him to execute work with greater dispatch, and at a cheaper rate (especially where large numbers are required), than it is possible to do with the Common Press. This Machine is well adapted for Hand-bills issued by Drapers and Grocers, for Grocers' Tea Papers, &c., or any description of work requiring an extensive supply. W. D. has also been induced to commence the

BOOKBINDING BUSINESS

in all its branches; and hopes, by keeping workmen of ability, and by a punctual attention to all orders with which he may be favoured, to give every satisfaction to those friends who may be pleased to honour him with their commands.

☞ ENGRAVING AND COPPERPLATE PRINTING NEATLY EXECUTED.

Observer Office, Jan. 4, 1840.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p William Hymers, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	Cout, Joseph	Graham, E.	Robson, R.
Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	p Hymers, Jas.	Rowntree, W.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	p Kemmir, Wm.	Sowerby, G.
Hall, Michael	p Fairbairn, J.	p Lister, John	p Swan, Walker
p Pollock, James	p Forster, S.	p Potts, John	Wight, John
p Wilson, Thos.		p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked p were present.]

A quarterly meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday, Feb. 3, when the Town Clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting, and also of the proceedings of the Watch Committee; by which it appeared that Mr. P. J. Main had been appointed collector of the street-assessment, in conjunction with Mr. Pearse; that new rules for the management of the police had been framed; and that a resolution in favour of an application, on behalf of Mr. Usher, for the appointment of sheriff's officer for Durham, had been come to; all which were confirmed by the Council, on the motion of Mr. Davis.

The Finance Committee's Report, with a recommendation of a borough-rate of a halfpenny in the pound, was also received and confirmed, on the motion of Mr. Brockett.

The Town Clerk stated, that the Bye-Laws Committee had agreed upon a code of bye-laws, nearly similar to those of Newcastle; but there not being two-thirds of the Council in attendance to-day, they could not at present be legally adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Kemmir, the Mayor was empowered to sign the agreement with the Brandling Railway Company for the quay—the rent, of course, to commence when the quay should be cleared and levelled, as agreed upon, which, in consequence of the severe weather, had not yet been done. A printed list of quay-dues, as fixed by the Council, was laid on the table, and copies distributed amongst the Councillors.

Mr. Wilson reported, that the Railway Committee had not been able to survey the Pothouse-quay watering-place, on account of the weather, but would do so as soon as convenient, with a view to having the watering-place made as wide as originally projected by the Carlisle Railway Company.

A letter from Mr. Falkous was read, respecting the Barn-close footpath, complaining of the treatment he had received, particularly in not receiving notice of the proceedings against him from the Town Clerk, and stating that he had improved the footpath, and that the bill of costs (subsequent to taxation) would be paid, after investigation of his case by the Council. A desultory conversation took place on the subject; and it appeared that Mr. Falkous had given an undertaking to put the footpath in a state satisfactory to the Footpath Committee, and to pay all the law-expenses incurred, in consequence of which the indictment had been withdrawn; and as these conditions had not been complied with, the Council determined that the letter, in Parliamentary phrase, should "lie on the table."

Mr. Lister called the attention of the Council to a well on the Ropery-banks which the public had always enjoyed, and which latterly had been seriously encroached upon; and the subject was referred to the Encroachment Committee.

Mr. Wilson said, he had had a subject under his notice of considerable importance to the revenue of the borough, which he supposed would be no worse of being increased a little. He had found, on looking over the treasurer's accounts for the borough of Sunderland, that considerable sums had been received, during past years, in the shape of fines on convictions at petty sessions; and as he was not aware of any difference in the position of the two boroughs (Sunderland and Gateshead), he thought it was worth inquiry whether some revenue could not be derived from this source here. Mr. W. was about to give notice of a motion; but the standing orders being suspended (on the motion of Mr. Fairbairn), he proposed at once the following resolution:—

That as it appears by the treasurer's account of the borough of Sunderland, that the sums of £72 15s., £90 6s. 9d., £114 3s. 6d., and £135 19s. 9d., have been paid to the Borough Fund of Sunderland, for fines on convictions at petty sessions, between the years 1837 and 1840 inclusive, the Town Clerk of this borough be instructed to confer with the Clerk of the Magistrates, in order to make such arrangements as may obtain for the Borough Fund of this borough as large an amount as possible of the fines levied at petty sessions.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis, and carried unanimously.

The Town Clerk stated, that under the bye-laws just framed, many fines would come to the borough-fund—and he supposed that would explain the matter referred to by Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Brockett thought other fines than those imposed by bye-laws must be received by the Sunderland treasurer, as the amount was so considerable:—at any rate, it was of great importance that the matter should be put right, so that each borough might benefit alike.

The Mayor thought something should be done about the parapet of Tyne bridge, which was in a shocking state. He certainly thought it had been clearly shown there was a fund invested for its maintenance, and of course it would not be right to apply other funds for the purpose, if a special one existed.

Mr. Fairbairn had heard that it was intended to rebuild the parapet entirely, without any balustrades.

Mr. Brockett said, he had heard it stated that the fund, and its accumulations, might be useful hereafter, in improving Newcastle, or otherwise, and that it was thought better not to touch it at present.

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ie MAYOR hoped, if such were the intended application of money, that Gateshead would receive its share.

'he TOWN CLERK said, he had seen Mr. Davison, the ·hop's agent, very recently, who stated that the Bishop, hough satisfied that he was not legally liable to the repairs the south-third, had still ordered them to be done at his own ·pense—and they would be completed forthwith.

The Council adjourned to the 17th of March.

REVENUE AND DEBT OF NATIONS.

Prepared by the Chevalier Cesar Moreau, formerly French Consul-General in London, and presented to the Royal Statistical Society, 1841.]

	Revenue.	*Public Debt.*
Austria.....	440,000,000 francs.	1,700,000,000 francs.
Bavaria.....	70,731,000 francs.	265,200,000 francs.
Denmark.....	35,000,000 francs.	275,000,000 francs.
Belgium	92,000,000 francs.	845,245,800 francs.
Holland	85,000,000 francs.	2,830,000,000 francs.
Norway	8,300,000 francs.	25,000,000 francs.
Sweden.....	49,258,000 francs.	78,000,000 francs.
Switzerland....	10,450,000 francs.	None.
Saxony.....	30,000,000 francs.	65,000,000 francs.
Wurtemberg....	20,000,000 francs.	55,000,000 francs.
Prussia.....	220,000,000 francs.	721,000,000 francs.
Russia.....	435,000,000 francs.	1,500,000,000 francs.
France.....1,184,525,365 francs.	....	15,800,030,000 francs.
Great Britain ..1,218,060,000 francs.	....	20,245,000,000 francs.
Spain—Revenue uncertain—no correct official return.		
Portugal, aver..	53,000,000 francs.	158,000,000 francs.
Roman States..	45,000,000 francs.	348,000,000 francs.
Sardinia.....	70,000,000 francs.	99,000,000 francs.
Sicily.....	110,000,000 francs.	500,000,000 francs.
Greece.....	6,000,000 francs.	162,000,000 francs.
* Turkey—Revenue not known.	....	None.
* Persia	80,000,000 francs.	None.
* Morocco	25,000,000 francs.	None.
United States..	135,000,000 francs.	None.
Brazils	6,000,000 francs.	231,000,000 francs.
Mexico	75,000,000 francs.	510,000,000 francs.
Paraguay.....	5,000,000 francs.	None.
Peru.....	30,000,000 francs.	145,475,000 francs.
Haiti, average..	15,000,000 francs.	145,500,000 francs.
India Co.'s....	528,000,000 francs.	
China.....	985,000,000 francs.	None.
Japan	250,000,000 francs.	None.
Siam.....	45,000,000 francs.	None.

AVERAGE VALUE OF GOLD AND SILVER IN CIRCULATION IN EUROPE, 1841.

France.....	2,000,000,000 francs.
England.....	1,000,000,000 francs.
Spain and Portugal	500,000,000 francs.
Austria and Italy	500,000,000 francs.
Russia.....	250,000,000 francs.
Holland and Denmark, &c.....	250,000,000 francs.
Total.....	4,500,000,000 francs.

* TURKEY, PERSIA, AND MOROCCO.—Despotic Governments: the Sultan, Schah, and Emperor, can claim all property of their subjects and life.

The Dispensary Ball, we remind our readers, takes place on Wednesday, the day of the Princess Royal's christening. The Newcastle Chamber of Commerce will dine on the same day, in the Assembly Rooms, (Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., in the chair).

The Rev. J. Davies, Rector of Gateshead, presided at a meeting of the ratepayers, on Thursday, Feb. 4, at noon; when, after some discussion, the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Rowntree, seconded by Mr. Cummins:—"That the road known by the name of the Stoney Flat Private Carriage Road, and leading from the Gateshead and Hexham turnpike road, on the Windmill-hills, to the south end of Sedgwick place, be, and it is hereby declared to be, a public parish highway, from the time that the owners and occupiers of property adjoining to that road, shall pay to the Surveyors of the Highways the sum of £60."

The members of the National Charter Association, Gateshead, met on the 31st Jan., at half past ten A.M., when a good full house proved to us the progress we are making. Mr. Cross delivered a lecture which gave general satisfaction, (Mr. Murray in the chair). The members met again in the evening, when resolutions were passed to the effect that the present council remain in office until the three months expire, when a fresh one will be chosen. Nomination lists are now open, which will be closed on the 14th inst. the council to be elected on the 6th of March. The committee to inquire into the practicability of getting up a tea for Williams and Binns, will give in their report on Sunday evening next. As those men will be entertained at tea in Newcastle on the 7th, the committee will be able to ascertain when they can attend in Gateshead. The particulars will appear in handbills during the week.—*Correspondent.*

Meteorological Table.

Derived from Mr. Hoggins's Registry at the Rooms of the Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle-upon Tyne.

1841.	*Stand.* BAROM., *No. 62.*	THERMOMETER.				WET BULB THERM.		WIND.
		Attach	*Stan.*	*Max*	*Min*	*Dry.*	*Wet.*	
Jan. 29, 9 A.M.	30.106	42.5	38	42	37	42	38.5	W. by S.
3 P.M.	30.096	46	42.5			42.5	41	W. by S.
9 P.M.	30.130	43	40.25			40.5	40	S. S. W.
30, 9 A.M.	30.090	44.5	40	40.5	38	40.5	40	S. W.
3 P.M.	30.084	46.5	43.5			44.5	44	S. W.
9 P.M.	30.152	49	42			43	41.5	N. by E.
31, 9 A.M.	30.200	45	39	44.5	37.5	40	39	N.E.
3 P.M.	30.213	45	36.5			35.5	35	E.S.E.
9 P.M.	30.394	42.5	34.5			36.5	33.5	E. by S.
Feb. 1, 9 A.M.	30.460	40	34	39.5	33	34.5	32.5	E.N.E.
3 P.M.	30.474	42	33.25			34	31.5	E.N.E.
9 P.M.	30.496	43.5	31.5					E.
2, 9 A.M.	30.242	39.5	32	35	31.5			E. by N.
3 P.M.	30.150	41	32.5					E. by N.
9 P.M.	30.100	43	30.5					E.
3, 9 A.M.	30.096	39	31.5	34.5	30.5			E. by N.
3 P.M.	30.050	41	32.5					E. by N
9 P.M.	30.024	42	31					E.
4, 9 A.M.	29.894	39.5	31.5	34.5	30.5			E.N.E.
3 P.M.	29.820	41.5	33.5					E.
9 P.M.	29.804	42	32.5					E.

JANUARY 29, dull and cloudy—drizzling rain towards evening. 30, dull and calm; rain and light breeze in the evening. 31, rainy morning; sleet during the forenoon; snow in the afternoon; evening cloudy. FEB. 1, snow in the morning, and afternoon, and evening, with a strong breeze, with hail and snow. 2, strong breeze, with snow; snow continued during the whole of the day. 3, snow and hail; cloudy; snow nearly all day. 4, morning dull, with a light breeze; afternoon dull; very cloudy.

TO CAPITALISTS, BUILDERS, BUILDING SOCIETIES, &c.

VALUABLE AND IMPORTANT FREEHOLD PROPERTY FOR SALE.—SIX BOROUGH RIGHTS IN THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

MESSRS. SMALL & BROUGH are instructed to offer FOR SALE BY AUCTION, at Mr. Freeman's, the Grey Horse Inn, Gateshead, on Thursday and Friday, the 11th and 12th days of February, 1841, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of each day, the valuable and extensive PROPERTY of the late MR. JAMES EASTON, of GATESHEAD, in the following lots:—

Lot I.—All that FREEHOLD and COPYHOLD ESTATE, situate at Satley, in the parish of Lanchester, in the county of Durham, consisting of about 135 acres of Freehold, and about 14 acres of Copyhold Land, with an excellent Farm House, Stables, Cow Byer, Barn, Hemel, Straw and Turnip Houses, Thrashing Machine, and other Conveniences and Appurtenances to the same belonging, now in the occupation of Patrick Suddes, as tenant from year to year. And also, the great and small TITHES issuing out of, or arising from, the said estate. The farm-house has been recently rebuilt, and the other buildings put into complete repair.

Lot. II.—All that FREEHOLD PUBLIC HOUSE, called or known by the sign of "The Magpie," with a Stable, Cow Byer, Yard, and Conveniences, now in the occupation of Ann West, adjoining the Low Team Toll Bar, on the Gateshead and Hexham Turnpike Road. And all those TWO CLOSES, or FIELDS, and GARDEN, containing, in the whole, 8 acres and 3 roods, or thereabouts, adjoining thereto. And all that TENEMENT or GATE-HOUSE, adjoining the said Toll Bar, and in the occupation of the Trustees of the said Turnpike Road. The annual rent-charge of £1 15s., in lieu of tithes, has been apportioned upon this lot, under the Tithe Commutation Agreement for the parish of Gateshead.

Lot III.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Seven Rooms, Two excellent Attics, and Two Cellars, late in the occupation of the said James Easton, but now unoccupied, with a Plot of Inclosed Ground, containing a tank for rain

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water in front, and a Yard, Outbuildings, and Conveniences behind, situate in Charlotte-place, West-street, Gateshead; together with a Piece of Garden Ground attached, containing 469 square yards, or thereabouts.

Lot IV.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE, of Six Rooms, Two Attics, and Two Cellars, adjoining Lot 3, now in the occupation of Mrs. Piper, with a Plot of Ground in front, Yard, Outbuildings, and Conveniences behind, and a Piece of Garden Ground attached, containing 474 square yards or thereabouts.

Lot V.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Seven Rooms, Two Attics, and Two Cellars, adjoining Lot 4, now in the occupation of Mr. John Greene, with a Plot of Ground in Front, Yard, Outbuildings, and Conveniences behind, and a Piece of Garden Ground attached, containing 473 square yards, or thereabouts.

Lot VI.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Six Rooms, Two Attics, and Two Cellars, adjoining Lot 5, now in the occupation of Mr. Henry Smith, with a Plot of Ground and water tank in front, Yard, Outbuildings, and Conveniences behind, and a Piece of Garden Ground attached, containing 479 square yards, or thereabouts.

The whole of the houses and buildings comprised in Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, are in excellent repair; and there is a pump of spring water for the common use of the tenants of these lots—and which pump, together with a yard and covered passage leading thereto, and the drains belonging to the said lots are to be kept in repair at the joint expense of the respective purchasers thereof.

Lot VII.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Five Rooms, Two Cellars, and Two Attics, situate on the west side of the High-street, Gateshead, now used as the GATESHEAD DISPENSARY, with a Plot of Garden Ground behind the same: and all those SEVEN DWELLING HOUSES, containing in the whole Eighteen Rooms and Two Cellars, situate on the north side of the Gateshead Dispensary, now in the occupation of John Newton, William Neville, Miss Heslop, and others; together with Two Yards, Outbuildings, Conveniences, and a pump of spring water adjoining thereto. And all that Plot of BUILDING GROUND, now used as a Garden, containing 1662 square yards, or thereabouts, now in the occupation of William Gordon, situate behind the said premises lastly described. This Building Ground contains an abundant supply of excellent freestone, well adapted for building purposes. No steam engine will be permitted to be erected, or any manufactory, or noxious, noisy, or offensive trade carried on upon Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. A drain from Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, passes through Lot 7, to the High-street, and may be used by the purchaser of Lot 7, on his contributing to the repair thereof.

The whole of the buildings of Lot 7 are in excellent repair, and there is a BOROUGH RIGHT appurtenant thereto.

Lot VIII.—All those TWO FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSES, containing together Nine Rooms, situate on the west side of the High-street, Gateshead, with a large Stable, Loft, Yard, Erections, and Outbuildings behind the same, now in the several occupations of Mrs. Pearson, T. Dobson, W. Graham, and —— Pearson. This Lot has a frontage of 39 feet adjoining the High-street, a right of passage to West-street, extends backwards 143 feet, contains in the whole 669 square yards, or thereabouts, and is a very desirable Lot for building purposes; it contains an abundant supply of excellent freestone. TWO BOROUGH RIGHTS are appurtenant to this Lot. No steam engine will be permitted to be erected, or any manufactory, or noxious, noisy, or offensive trade, carried on upon it.

Lot IX.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, consisting of a Shop, Cellar, and Five Rooms, situate on the west side of the High-street, Gateshead, and adjoining and on the south side of Lot 8, now in the occupation of Elizabeth Forbes and others; together with Three Coal Houses appropriated thereto. A BOROUGH RIGHT is appurtenant to this lot. There is a common passage leading through the same.

Lot X.—All those THREE FREEHOLD TENEMENTS of Six Rooms, situated immediately behind Lot 9, and now in the occupation of Henry Hill, Margaret Cummins, Launcelot Wright, and others; together with Four Coal Houses appropriated thereto.

Lot XI.—All those TWO FREEHOLD TENEMENTS, of Four Rooms, situate immediately behind Lot 10, and now in the occupation of Roger Shaw, Thomas Embleton, and others, together with Two Coal Houses appropriated thereto.

Lot XII.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Six Rooms and Two Cellars, situated immediately behind Lot 8, with the Yard and Coal Houses behind, and a Plot of Ground in front, now in the occupation of Joseph Unit, Henry Dobson, and others.

A common ash hole and conveniences are appropriated for the joint use, and to be maintained at the joint expense of the purchasers of lots 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Lot XIII.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, of Five Rooms, Cellar, and Two Attics, situate at Woodbine-terrace, Windmill-hills, Gateshead, with a Yard and conveniences behind the same, and a Plot of Garden Ground in front thereof, now in the occupation of the Rev. Henry Barrett. The roads at the north and south ends of this lot are private roads, maintained at the joint expense of the owners of property at Woodbine-terrace.

Lot XIV.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES, of Four Rooms, with a Yard and conveniences behind the same, situate in Nuns'-lane, Gateshead, now in the occupation of John Varey and Archibald Gillender.

Lot XV.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES, of Four Rooms, with a Yard, Conveniences, and large Too-fall Workshop behind the same, situate in Nuns'-lane aforesaid, adjoining Lot 14, and now in the occupation of Jane Dixon and William Holmes.

Lot XVI.—All those FREEHOLD PREMISES, used as an Inn, and called "THE GREY HORSE INN," situate on the east side of the High-street, Gateshead, in the occupation of John Freeman, with the Rooms and Brewhouse belonging thereto, in the occupation of John Harding, and comprising a Tap room, 33 feet six inches in length; a Long Room, 40 feet by 20 feet; 11 other rooms; an excellent Brewhouse, with Boiler, Mash Tub, Cooler, and Brewing Apparatus; a Malt Loft, Four Cellars, Conveniences and Appurtenances; the whole, being well adapted for carrying on an extensive business. And all that HOUSE, of Two Rooms, in the occupations of William Gascoigne and Elizabeth Riley, adjoining and on the east side of the Brewhouse, belonging to the said Inn. And all that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, adjoining the Grey Horse Inn, situate on the east side of the High-street, and consisting of a Shop and Nine Rooms, in the occupation of James Hewitt and John Harding, with a small Yard on the south side thereof. And all that HOUSE, of Two Rooms, behind the same, in the occupation of Robert Temple and John Young. And all that HOUSE, of Two Rooms, behind Lot 19, in the occupation of the said James Hewitt and William Lowis, and a Coal House attached to the Brewhouse of the said Grey Horse Inn. This Lot is subject to a right of passage to lot 19. TWO BOROUGH RIGHTS are appurtenant to this lot. A drain passes through this lot, for the use in common, and to be repaired at the joint expense of the purchasers of lots 16 and 19. Certain fixtures in the Inn and Brewhouse will have to be taken by the purchaser at a valuation.

Lot XVII.—All that FREEHOLD BUILDING, used as a Stable, and in the occupation of the said John Freeman, or his under tenants, with the Coal Houses and vacant ground, containing 34 square yards, or thereabouts, at the east end thereof, and situate at or near the South end of Oakwellgate, and adjoining the passage way leading to the back part of the Grey Horse Inn.

Lot XVIII.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES, of Four Rooms, Two Attics, and Two Cellars, situate in Oakwellgate chare, adjoining and on the east side of the Grey Horse Inn, and in the occupation of Mary Warwick, Eleanor Lishman, and others.

Lot XIX.—All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, consisting of a Shop and Seven Rooms, situate on the east side of the High-street, adjoining Lot 16, and in the occupation of Mrs. Ormston, with the Yard and Conveniences belonging thereto. A drain passes through this lot for the use in common, and to be repaired at the joint expense of the purchasers of lots 16 and 19.

Lot XX.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE of Three Rooms, situate at and extending across the west end of South Easton-street, Gateshead, in the occupation of James Rankin and John Simpson.

Lot XXI.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE of Two Rooms,

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situate on the north side and at the west end of South Easton-street, aforesaid, and adjoining and at the east end of lot 19, now in the occupation of John Bramwell.

Lot XXII.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE of Four Rooms, in the occupation of Douglas Bramwell, Edward Monkhouse, and William Nesbit, with the Coal Houses belonging and appropriated thereto. And all that HOUSE of Two Rooms, in the occupation of Henry Grey. And all those Four Coal Houses at the west end of the last-mentioned house, with a Room above the same, occupied by the said Edward Monkhouse. This lot extends from South Easton-street, aforesaid, to the passage way leading to the back part of the Grey Horse Inn, and adjoins lot 21, and the house (part of lot 16) occupied by William Gascoigne and Elizabeth Riley.

Lot XXIII.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE, of Two Rooms, adjoining the said passage way leading to the back part of the Grey Horse Inn, and adjoining and at the east end of the northern part of lot 22, and now in the occupation of Barbara Kirkley, together with the Coal House appropriated thereto.

Lot XXIV.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES of Four Rooms, situate in South Easton street aforesaid, adjoining and to the east of lot 22, with a small Yard belonging thereto, and now in the occupation of George Menham, Richard Bennett, and Ralph Elsdon.

XXV.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE of Four Rooms, with a small Yard belonging thereto, situate at the east end of and adjoining lot 23, and adjoining the said passage way, leading to the back part of the Grey Horse Inn, and now in the occupation of Mary Nicholson and William Wheatley, together with the Coal House appropriated thereto. The yard of this lot is subject to a right of passage to lot 24.

Lot XXVI.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES of Four Rooms and Two Cellars, situate in South Easton-street aforesaid, on the east side of and adjoining lot 24, and now in the occupation of Richard Gray and Robert Robinson. There is a common passage leading through this lot.

Lot XXVII.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE of Two Rooms and Attics, situate on the north side of and adjoining lot 26, and now in the occupation of Joseph Hall and William Johnson, together with one Coal House appropriated thereto.

Lot XXVIII.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES of Six Rooms, and Three Attics, situate at or near the south end of Oakwellgate, on the north side of and adjoining lot 27, and fronting the passage way leading to the back part of the Grey Horse Inn, and now in the occupation of John Stobbart, Thos. Richardson, and others, together with one Coal House behind the same and appropriated thereto. There is a common passage leading through this lot.

Lot XXIX.—All those TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES of Four Rooms, with the Yard belonging thereto, situate on the north side, and at the west end of North Easton-street, Gateshead, and on the east side of and adjoining lot 28, and now in the occupation of John Wardropper and William White, together with Two Coal Houses appropriated thereto.

Lot XXX.—All those four FREEHOLD HOUSES of Nine Rooms, with the Yard and Coal Houses belonging thereto situate in North Easton-street aforesaid, adjoining, and on the, east side of Lot 29, and now in the occupation of William Tucker, James Murray, John Vinton, and William Kirton, together with two other Coal Houses appropriated thereto.

Lot XXXI.—All that FREEHOLD HOUSE containing a large Shop, One Room, and a Cellar, situate in Oakwellgate Chare aforesaid, and at the south end of Oakwellgate; now in the occupation of John Hetherington.

The Passage-way leading from Oakwellgate to the back part of the Grey Horse inn, is to be kept in repair at the joint expence of the purchasers of Lots 16, 17, 22, and 23.

The common Ash Hole, and Privies adjoining Lot 31, are appropriated for the joint use, and are to be maintained at the joint expence of the purchasers of Lots 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.

All Boundary Walls between two or more Lots, are to be considered as party Walls.

The Coal under the whole of the Lots in the Borough of Gateshead, has been sold with usual powers of working the same by means of outstroke.

Lots 1, to 15, inclusive, will be put up on the first day, and Lots 16 to 31, on the second day of sale, and all the Lots will be put up in the order in which they are above described.

This truly valuable Property being apportioned in Lots of such varied extent and value, offers peculiar attractions to every class of purchasers, and the attention of the public is earnestly directed to it. Plans of the whole are lodged for inspection at the office of Mr. SWINBURNE, Solicitor, and with Mr. JOHN BELL, Land Surveyor, Gateshead, and on application to them, further particulars may be known.

The *Ingoldsby Legends* furnish the following comfort for those who may have been visited with the anathemas of a Pope—Catholic, Church-of-England, or Dissenting:—

The cardinal rose with a dignified look:
He call'd for his candle, his bell, and his book!
In holy anger, and pious grief,
He solemnly curs'd that rascally thief!
He curs'd him at board, he curs'd him in bed:
From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
He curs'd him in sleeping, that every night
He should dream of the devil, and wake in a fright:
He curs'd him in eating, he curs'd him in drinking,
He curs'd him in coughing, in sneezing, in winking:
He curs'd him in sitting, in standing, in lying,
He curs'd him in walking, in riding, in flying,
He curs'd him living, and cursed him dying!
Never was heard such a terrible curse;
But—what gave rise
To no little surprise—
Nobody seemed one penny the worse.

The ball for the benefit of the Gateshead Dispensary, under the stewardship of the Mayor, Joshua Johnson, Esq., and W. E. Brockett, Esq., took place on Wednesday last, at the Assembly Room, in the Grey Horse inn, and was attended by 186 ladies and gentlemen, all of whom seemed highly delighted with the evening's amusement. The ball was led off by Joshua Johnson, Esq., and Mrs. W. E. Brockett. The music was of a superior description, under the management of Mr. Easthope, and the dancing was kept up until an early hour. The *tea* department of the business reflected great credit on the hostess, Mrs. Freeman; and the Bachelors and Benedicts, whose pleasures were unfortunately confined to the card tables, were no less pleased by the arrangements for their comfort and consolation. The benefit of the charity, we have no doubt, will be considerable.—FEB. 13.

Mr. R. Coulthard, Engineer to the Brandling Junction Railway Company, was presented on the 6th Feb. with a valuable silver snuff-box, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the workmen of the Brandling Junction Company to Mr. Robert Coulthard, Engineer, as a token of respect. 1841." The subscribers, upwards of 50 in number, met for the occasion at Mrs. Stobart's, Brandling Arms inn, Oakwellgate, Gateshead. Mr. Thomas Hall, in an appropriate address to Mr. Coulthard, requested his acceptance of the "token of respect," with their heartfelt wishes for his prosperity and happiness. Mr. C. returned his grateful thanks for so substantial a proof of their esteem, and sincerely wished them and their families the enjoyment of health and welfare through life.

A suitable building, we rejoice to learn, is about to be erected in this borough for public purposes—Town Hall, Justice Room, Assembly Room, Dispensary, &c. The spirited originators of the undertaking, (Messrs. Wm. Wylam, John G. Abbott, and others of the Ball Committee,) are proceeding most prosperously. The capital required is estimated at £3,000, to be raised in shares of £5 each; and so popular is the project, that nearly 150 shares were subscribed for the very first day of its promulgation.—FEB. 13.

The anniversary meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle, was held in the Court of the Incorporated Company of Merchants, in the Guildhall, on Wednesday last, (Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., the President, in the chair,) when it appeared that the funds of the institution were in so flourishing a condition as to admit the investment of an additional £100 in the debentures of the Carlisle Railway Company; which was ordered to be made, on the motion of Matthew Plummer, Esq., seconded by Joseph Crawhall, Esq. Mr. Justice Nichol, earnestly recommended the Chamber to assist in furthering a publication (contemplated by Mr. Nicholas Armstrong, of Her Majesty's Customs) of the Exports and Imports of the Port, by uniting in a scheme for the purpose of guaranteeing the publisher against loss, to the extent of £20; which was agreed to, with the addition of an instruction suggested by Mr. Brockett, and supported by Mr. Hunter and Mr. Crawhall, to the effect that the Committee should endeavour to arrange that

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the list be published, at least, weekly. After other matters respecting the post office, &c., had been discussed, the thanks of the meeting were voted to the Chairman, and the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—

President, Sir M. W. Ridley; Vice Presidents, Joseph Lamb, Matthew Plummer, and William Armstrong, Esqrs.; Committee, Messrs. Wilson, Crawhall, G. T. Dunn, Anderson, Clarke, Archbold, Smith, Potter, Campbell, Nichol (J. P.), Blackbird, and T. Cargill.

The Chamber afterwards dined together at the Assembly Rooms, according to custom, under the presidency of Sir M. W. Ridley, and spent the evening as became the intelligent merchants of one of the most flourishing ports of the kingdom. We are informed, on good authority, and we feel pleasure in giving publicity to the fact, that the late considerable increase of members, and consequent augmentation of the funds of the Chamber, are almost entirely owing to the indefatigable and able exertions of its Secretary, Mr. Grieveson. Mr. Dixon, the Comptroller of the Customs, read a statement at the dinner, showing the amount of increase and decrease of the duty received on the various articles undermentioned, placing the year 1839 in comparison with 1840:—

	1839.	1840.	Increase.
Currants,	£1,653	£3,232	£1,579
Coffee,	10,132	16,068	5,936
Raisins,	1,614	2,936	1,322
Sugar,	11,136	15,295	4,159
Seed-corn,	2,371	5,587	3,216
Tobacco,	108,699	118,231	9,532
Turpentine,	3,308	4,495	1,187
Battens, deals, &c.	31,069	31,967	898
			Decrease.
Cheese,	12,785	12,340	449
Hides,	1,165	669	496
Rum,	69,515	64,736	4,779
Brandy,	38,217	34,927	3,290
Geneva,	549	485	64
Tallow,	2,259	2,172	87
Tea,	25,406	24,814	592
Wine,	22,305	20,855	1,455
Timber,	36,402	32,643	3,759
Corn,	56,444	31,424	25,120

After alluding to the decrease, (which, on the whole, amounts to a considerable sum,) Mr. Dixon observed, that there was an increase, however, in some other articles; and he was happy to say that there were now in the port 1,327 vessels, giving employment to 13,548 seamen, and he trusted that this year would show a great increase in the revenue. We should not forget to state, that the "health" of Lord Minto, and also of Admiral Stopford, his officers and men, received due honours from the company.—Feb. 13.

Mr. N. Armstrong's forthcoming statistical account of the imports and exports of the port of Newcastle, being deserving of every patronage, we recommend it strongly to the support of the commercial world.—Feb. 13.

The anniversary meeting of the Governors of the Gateshead Dispensary was held in the Townhall, Oakwellgate, on Tuesday last, at noon, (Wm. Andrew, Esq., in the chair), when the report *(see advt.)* was read by Mr. W. H. Brockett, the Secretary; also the Treasurer's accounts and tables of diseases, &c., for the past year. The finances of the dispensary, thanks to donations and a considerable sum in the shape of arrears which were received last year, are in a healthy state, although the ordinary income is still far from adequate to meet the expenditure, a disease of which the public, we trust, will as soon as possible cure the dispensary, in return for the thousands of cures which it has effected since its establishment. A present of ten guineas was voted to Mr. Tinniswood, as a mark of esteem for his valuable services; and thanks were given to all the officers, medical and otherwise, of the institution. The Rector of Gateshead, and Cuthbert Ellison, Esq., were elected presidents, and Geo. Hawks, Esq., a vice-president of the dispensary, and (with the other presidents, vice-presidents, treasurer, and secretary, as before) the following are the committee for the ensuing year, Messrs. Ormston, Colman, R. Lister, W. Kenmir, B. J. Prockter, W. Andrew, W. Wylam, Swinburne, Vickers, Wake, Philips, and D. Haggie. Mr. W. Wylam mentioned that a commencement had been made of a joint stock company for the purpose of erecting a building suitable to public purposes in Gateshead, and he thought the dispensary might unite in the undertaking. The want of a good ball room had been long admitted, and the balls afforded considerable assistance to the charity; a dispensary, townhall, justice room, &c., might all be included under the same roof. The feeling was warmly in favour of the project, and we shall be ashamed for our townsmen if they allow much time to elapse before it be carried into full effect. Thanks were voted to the chairman by acclamation. Several friends of the institution dined together at Mrs. Calvert's in the afternoon, the Mayor in the chair, when the best wishes were expressed for the success of the dispensary, and a pleasant evening was spent.—Feb. 13.

The members of the National Charter Association, Gateshead, assembled on Sunday at their place of meeting, when a "notice" was read from the *Northern Star*, concerning Mr. Deegan, and called forth some forcible observations. A resolution was passed, viz., "That the members of this association, having heard Mr. Deegan, both before and after the Leeds meeting, are glad to testify, that they never heard him say one disrespectful word, either in public or private, concerning the *Star* or its Editor, but have heard him read portions from it, and recommend it to the public; and allowing it to be true what has been stated by the 'mysterious writer' of Bishopwearmouth, still they consider it too bad to expose private affairs belonging to any public individual, as has been stated in the *Star* itself, concerning the question whether Feargus O'Connor is married. Further, they consider that the Editor of the *Star* ought to have sent a proper reporter to the meeting, as he caused the country a deal of expence in sending delegates to Leeds; and if he does pay £500 per year for reporting and correspondence, he might have had a reporter there." On Tuesday, the council met at Mr. Morton's, when it was unanimously agreed to hold a public meeting, as a token of respect to Messrs. Williams and Binns, in the long room of the Wheat Sheaf inn, on Tuesday evening, the 23d inst; also, that a requisition from the ratepayers be got up, requesting the Mayor of Gateshead to call a public meeting of the ratepayers and inhabitants, to petition Parliament against the Poor Law Amendment Act.—*Correspondent, Feb.* 13.

The Bishop of Durham has just sent, through the Rector of this parish, £10, to be equally divided between the soup-kitchens of Gateshead and Newcastle.

The Master and Brethren of the Trinity House, Newcastle, have given £5 to the Gateshead soup-kitchen.

Trade of the Wear.—We have been favoured with a return of the trade of this port for the past year, which shows a very considerable increase as compared with 1839, and more particularly in our staple manufacture—*shipping*. Without entering into minor details, we may state that the gross Customs revenue of the year 1840 is nearly £120,000—being an increase of £8,000 over that of 1839. But the most extraordinary advance is in our shipping. In 1839, the number was 836 vessels, with a measurement of 170,057 tons; at the close of 1840, the number was 927 vessels, measuring 190,129 tons; showing an increase on the year of 91 ships, and 20,072 tons. It may be interesting to some of our readers to know, that the tonnage of Sunderland is now exceeded by only three ports, namely, London, Newcastle, and Liverpool. By a parliamentary document published in 1828, it appears that the shipping then belonging to Newcastle included 928 vessels, or 194,712 tons; and that Liverpool possessed 749 vessels, or 149,070 tons. It seems from this, that Sunderland is only about twelve years "astern" of Newcastle in shipping, and considerably "a-head" of the Liverpool of 1828.—*Herald.*

Charitable Donations, &c.—The Venerable Archdeacon Thorp has given £5 to the Northern Asylum for the Blind and the Deaf and Dumb, in addition to a former donation of £25; the Rev. H. W. Wright has given £21, and the Trustees of Lord Crewe, £10; Thos. Jamieson, Esq., Newton Villa, has become an annual subscriber of £2 2s.; and the Rev. C. Coxe, the vicar of Newcastle, has accepted the office of Vice-President.——The treasurer of the Newcastle Infirmary has received from the Executor of the late John Renwick, Esq., £90, being a legacy of £100, after deducting duty.——Miss Anderson, of Jesmond, has made a donation of £2 to the Aged Female Society, Newcastle; a Friend, £1; and Mrs. Robert Beckwith, 10s.——Mrs. John Cookson, jun., Benwell, and Miss Augusta Wallis, Carlton-terrace, have become subscribers of one guinea each to the charity for poor married women lying in at their own houses, Newcastle.——The committee appointed by the Newcastle Council to supply the wants of the poor at this inclement season, have distributed the £100 voted on the 3d inst. as follows:—All Saints, £40; St. Nicholas, £20; St. John's, £20; St. Andrew's, £20. They have also received from the owners of Heaton Colliery, ten keels of coals; Willington, five keels; Walker and Killingworth, two each; Percy Main, one; Messrs. Porter & Co., Spital Tongues colliery, three chaldrons, and the owners of St. Lawrence, 12 fothers of coals, which have been distributed.——St. Nicholas' soup-kitchen was opened in December last, since which period the managers

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have distributed gratuitously 17,846 pints of good soup amongst 455 families of destitute poor in that parish, together with 5,800 loaves of bread. All Saints' parish is distributing 1,200 pints of most excellent and nutritious soup three times a-week, with a suitable proportion of bread. St. John's and St. Andrew's parishes, together with the township of Westgate, are also giving away soup, coals, &c.——The Stella Coal Company have ordered Mr. Simpson, their agent, to distribute 12 fothers of coals to the poor of the village of Ryton.——The treasurer of the Indigent Sick Society of South Shields, has received a donation of £5 from G H.——Capt. Ramsay, R.N., has paid to the Rev. Alfred J. Sandilands, treasurer of the Bishopwearmouth and Sunderland Infirmary, a donation of one pound; and Mr. William Dawson, of Tunstall, has become an annual subscriber of £1 1s.

GATESHEAD DISPENSARY.

AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the Governors, in the Town Hall, on Tuesday the 9th of February, 1841, the following Report was read, received and adopted:—

The Committee, in presenting the usual accounts to the Governors, at this, the close of the 9th year of the Dispensary, earnestly request the attention of all friends of humanity to two important facts which these documents disclose—viz., the great increase of service which, during the past year, has been rendered by the Institution to the poor, and the additional burthen which has been thereby imposed upon its resources.

The excess of patients and, consequently, of expenditure during the past year has been created, certainly, to a considerable extent, by the contract with the Gateshead Poor Law Union, but, under the judicious arrangement made with the Board of Guardians, the institution, it is hoped, will be a gainer, whilst the Committee feel it due to the Apothecary and other Medical officers of the Dispensary, to express their implicit belief that the attention to the pauper patients has been, at the same time, every thing that could be desired.

The item of Medicines has been also increased by a rise in price of certain articles—a circumstance, probably, of only a temporary nature.

The Donations during the past year have been less in amount than in 1839, but the receipts for annual subscriptions, as well as for arrears, the Committee are glad to say, have been larger during the past, than the preceding year: yet this may have been caused, in some degree, by the election of officers which took place; payment of subscriptions, before voting, being required by the rules.

The Committee allude to those matters to show the necessity of continued exertion for the augmentation of the Dispensary's funds. Its friends are, certainly, numerous, and their contributions, hitherto, have been munificent, but so long as its regular income, that is, the amount of annual subscriptions and interests of money invested, shall fall short of the expenditure, its condition can, by no means, be pronounced to be a safe one. Besides, the Committee trust that at no very distant day, a building worthy of the noble object of the institution may be purchased or erected. It is not only the greater convenience which such a building could afford, that renders it desirable—it would prevent the confusion and expense attendant on removal, should such a step be rendered necessary by change of ownership or from any other cause.

A due discrimination in the distribution of letters of recommendation is no less essential to the interests of the charity. Unless the objects recommended are really "poor and needy," the humane intentions of the Governors, it should be remembered, must be materially defeated.

The Committee cannot conclude their report without expressing their regret that ill health should have imposed upon Dr. Featherson the necessity of resignation. This unfortunate circumstance, and the inability of Dr. White to continue an attendance of two days per week, as he had been kind enough for a long time to afford, rendered an election of a Physician and Surgeon necessary, and the Committee congratulate the Governors on the accession of highly-estimated talent which the late appointments have made to the medical force of the Institution.

Mr. Tinniswood, the Committee feel pleasure in stating, has amply justified the confidence of the Governors, his humane and zealous attentions to the poor being, deservedly, the theme of general praise. The Committee, indeed, consider themselves called upon, in justice to the Apothecary, to recommend the Governors to confer upon him some mark of their esteem.

Number of Patients admitted to the benefit of the Dispensary during the year ending Feb. 2, 1841		4255
Ditto ditto	1840	3930
	Increase,	325

Total number admitted since its commencement in 1832 31,517

ACCOUNT OF ORDINARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1840.

Income.		*Expenditure.*	
Subscriptions	£283 9 0	Medicines	£229 2 11
Interest on money invested	24 15 4	Rent	16 0 0
	£308 8 4	Apothecary's Salary	60 0 0
Balance, being excess of expenditure over ordinary income	70 0 8	Expenses of House	23 5 9
		Stationery, Printing, &c.	23 6 0
		Surgical Instruments	1 3 10
		Commission collecting sub.	5 10 6
	£378 9 0		£378 9 0

Parliament having assembled, a further return of Newspaper Stamps has been made and published; and we are now enabled to show the numbers supplied to the Press of Durham and Northumberland in the year 1840.

DURHAM.	
Gateshead Observer	108,000
Northern Times	63,000
Sunderland Herald	49,000
Durham Chronicle	46,000
Durham Advertiser	40,000
NORTHUMBERLAND.	
Newcastle Courant	198,000
Newcastle Chronicle	156,000
Newcastle Journal	49,000
Port of Tyne Pilot	39,490
Tyne Mercury	27,550

The expenditure in England and Wales, for the relief and maintenance of the poor, law charges under the poor-law, and other purposes (county rate and payments under the registration and parochial-assessments acts excepted), is shown by the following table, in connection with the price of wheat per quarter:—

Year.	Relief	Law.	Sundries.	Total.	Wheat.
1833 34	£6,317,254	£258,604	£935,361*	£7,511,219	£2 11 11
1834-35	5,526,416	202,527	935,361	6,664,304	2 4 2
1835-36	4,717,629	172,431	823,212	5,713,272	1 19 6
1836-37	4,644,741	126,951	637,043	4,808,735	2 12 6
1837-38	4,123,604	93,982	507,929	4,725,515	2 15 3
1838-39	4,406,907	63,412	493,703	4,964,022	3 9 4
1839-40	4,576,965	67,020	466,698	5,110,683	3 8 6

* There being no distinct head for this item in 1833-4, the amount in 1834-5 is taken as an approximation.

The Gateshead Fell Public Rooms are going on most favourably. A plan, by Mr. Oliver, has been already approved by the committee; and no time will be lost in carrying it into effect. We mention this, not less as a record of honourable exertion on the part of our "Fell" friends, than as an additional incentive to our more immediate neighbours of the "auld toon" of Gateshead.

The subscribers to the St. Edmund's Chapel School of Gateshead, met in the vestry of St. Mary's church, on Monday last, (the Rev. John Davies, the Rector, in the chair,) in consequence of a requisition to the Rector; when it was resolved, that the Bishop of Durham, in whom the power of appointing trustees to the intended National School in this borough is legally vested, should be respectfully recommended to include the Mayor of Gateshead for the time being amongst the trustees of the said school; and the Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Speck, was instructed to transmit the resolution officially to his Lordship.—FEB. 20.

The Gateshead Fell soup-kitchen, in the last ten days, has afforded relief to the poor to the extent of 400 gallons of soup, and 2,000 loaves of bread.—FEB. 20.

The Gateshead Dispensary has experienced an addition to its funds of £36 6s. 10d. from the late ball at Mr. Freeman's.

TRADE OF THE PORT OF SUNDERLAND.—The following comparative statement of customs-receipts, and shipping, for the years 1839 and 1840, (which we copy from the *Herald*,) exhibits, on the whole, a steady and gratifying increase in the trade of the port:—

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.	1839.	1840.
On imports	£51,823 1 2	£54,872 1 7
On warehoused goods	59,176 4 9	63,917 18 8
On exports	605 5 2	761 8 7
Monies (not duties)	126 13 0	129 12 3
	£111,731 4 1	£119,681 1 1
		111,737 4 1
	Increase	£7,949 17 0

SHIPPING.	1839.	1840.
Foreign vessels, inwards, with cargoes	311	343
Ditto, outwards, ditto	1,846	2,143
Coasters, inwards, with cargoes	1,191	1,093
Ditto, outwards, ditto	4,530	4,328
Ditto, inwards, for warehouse	107	155
	7,985	8,062

A TRADITION OF THE TANKERVILLES.

[The following well-told "tradition" appeared in a recent number of *Chambers's Journal*. The "White House" therein referred to, is at present the property and residence of R. C. Forster, Esq., and is thus mentioned in Surtees' History of Durham:—"Whitehouse stands on

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the edge of Gateshead Fell, to the south of High Heworth. This is a leasehold estate under the church of Durham, and was successively the seat of the Jennisons and Colvilles. It afterwards passed by purchase to John Stafford, and was alienated by his grandson, John Stafford, Esq., to Richard Scruton, of Durham, Esq. The house occupying the high ground betwixt the vales of the Wear and Tyne, commands a very varied and extensive prospect over the estuary of both rivers, with the castles of Tynemouth and Hylton in the distance." Mackenzie confounds White House with Carr Hill House. The "Peerage" records that Charles, second Earl of Tankerville, and Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, married Camilla, daughter of Edward Colville, Esq., of White House, county of Durham. The countess died in 1775, at the age, it is said, of 105, which, in all probability, is incorrect, as it would place her birth five years antecedent to that of her husband's father, who was born in 1675, and died in 1722.—Ed. G. O.]

In the early part of the last century, Edward Colville, who had realised a competency as a butcher and grazier, resided in a mansion called the White House, which may still be seen in the vicinity of Gateshead. The respectability of his character, and the style in which he lived, were such as to admit of his daughter Camilla attending the assize balls in Newcastle, though these were then fully as exclusive as they are at present. Gifted by nature with an elegant person, and with some advantages of education, Camilla was a young lady eminently qualified to grace those assemblages. It is not therefore surprising, that at one of them she had the good fortune to attract the attention of a young nobleman, Lord Ossulston, the eldest son of the Earl of Tankerville. It occasioned no small flutter in the room, when this gentleman, after the proper formalities, requested of Miss Colville the honour of being allowed to walk a minuet with her. She blushingly consented, and rarely had the ball-room of Newcastle exhibited a more striking display of graceful movement than what was displayed while this stately dance was in the course of being performed. Lord Ossulston was charmed beyond all measure by the beauty of his partner, and, as he handed her to her carriage, or whatever other conveyance her father's fortune allowed of, he inly vowed that the first should not be the last night of their acquaintance.

The next day beheld the heir of the house of Tankerville, at an hour which now would be considered preposterously early, calling at the White House to pay his respects to its fair tenant. Next day, and the next again, he renewed his visits; and, in short, his attention became so conspicuous, that the young lady's father, from being simply flattered by the notice of a person of rank, began to fear that feelings might arise between the parties which would only lead to disappointment. Perhaps he had even graver fears, which any one acquainted with the maxims of the gentlemen of that age will not deem to have been at all unreasonable. It was only in the immediately ensuing age, that Richardson drew the character of Sir Hargrave Pollexfen. He therefore made some efforts to keep Lord Ossulston out of the company of his daughter, but with no great success. Denied admittance to the house, the young noble still could beset her when she went abroad, seat himself near her at church, and get insinuated into any little social party where she was expected. Mr. Colville at length saw it to be necessary to take very decided measures, and he resolved to place the young lady for some time in a new and distant home. A relation of his had been long settled as a merchant in Holland. In the hands of that gentleman he thought she would be quite safe from Lord Ossulston's addresses. He had also very opportunely a friend who conducted a vessel of his own regularly between South Shields and the ports of Holland and the north of France. By means of this friend it was comparatively an easy matter to get the young lady conveyed to her new home. It may here be remarked, that the shipowners, who in those days navigated their own vessels from South Shields, were a highly respectable class of men, generally possessing good education and manners, and living, when at home, in a style of considerable dignity. Amongst the descendants of more than one of them, might be found members of both houses of parliament. They took the name of Captain, and had, we believe, some solid grounds for doing so; as trading beyond certain latitudes and longitudes specified by Queen Elizabeth, gave masters of merchant vessels a modified permission to assume that title. Captain Aubane readily entered into the views of his friend Colville, and undertook to convey the young lady in safety to her relative in Rotterdam. She was, accordingly, conducted in the most private manner to South Shields, and put on board his vessel. How she felt on the occasion, has not been remembered by tradition; but if, as is likely, she regarded her lover with affection, and deemed the voyage a compulsory exile, the authority of parents was in those days too awful and inflexible to admit of her making anything like effectual remonstrance.

The voyage passed in safety: Camilla was consigned to her father's Dutch friend; and Captain Aubane returned with the pleasing intelligence that all was safe.—If Mr. Colville, however, believed that Lord Ossulston had been "thrown out," he was mistaken; for, before many weeks had elapsed, his Lordship made his appearance in Rotterdam, and became as troublesome to the family who had charge of his mistress, as he had formerly been to her father. The Linden Walks lent their shade to certain meetings of the lovers, and, when such meetings were denied, his Lordship made signals of affection from the street, which Camilla could furtively read in the friendly mirror projecting from the parlour window. The Dutch friend now became more distressingly alarmed than ever the father had been, in as far as a responsibility for interests of another is more harassing than responsibilily for interests of one's own. He therefore resolved to get quit as soon as possible of his fair but perilous charge. Captain Aubane, ere long, returned to Rotterdam for another cargo, and, when he was about to sail, Camilla was once more put on board his vessel.

Behold the Belle of Newcastle again at sea. But now it was with very different feelings that she crossed the German Ocean; and for this change there was no doubt good cause. The Dutch coast had for a day been lost in the blue distance: sea and sky were the boundaries of the salors' sight; and honest Aubane was congratulating himself on the prospect of soon committing Miss Colville in safety to her father's keeping, when, descending into the cabin, how was he astonished to behold, kneeling ar her feet, that very Lord Ossulston who was the cause of all his apprehensions, and whom he supposed to have been left lamenting on the quay of Rotterdam! He soon learned that the lover had contrived, by the connivance of a sailor, and, doubtless, with the concurrence of his mistress, to secrete himself on board the vessel a little while before it sailed. It was too late to think of returning to the Dutch harbour to put Lord Ossulston ashore; but in allowing him to proceed on the voyage, Aubane resolved to make him as little the better of his contrivance as possible. Exerting the authority which his position gave him, he commanded the young lord to withdraw from the cabin, and not to appear there again, unless in his company, and by his express permission. He also stipulated that, while he was himself on deck upon duty, Lord Ossulston, to make sure of obedience to the rules, should remain beside him, at whatever time of day or night, and under whatever circumstances of weather. The lover found himself compelled to submit to all these restrictions; but the privilege of seeing his mistress once a-day, even in the presence of a third party, served in no small degree to reconcile him to their strictness.

In the course of the voyage, which was not a short one, the heir of Tankerville made a more favourable impression on the mind of Aubane than he had done on the less enlightened and more jealous nature of the young lady's father. Aubane became convinced that, however frivolous or otherwise objectionable might have been the feelings with which he at first regarded Camilla, he was now inspired by an honourable affection. He was also induced to believe the young man when he protested, in the most earnest manner, that the future happiness of his life depended on his obtaining the hand of Miss Colville. The South Shields ship-owner did not, indeed, like the idea of encouraging a young nobleman in an object which must be regarded with dislike by his father and other relations; but on this point also his scruples were at length overcome, doubtless by persuasives strictly honourable. The consequence was, that on arriving at South Shields, he allowed Lord Ossulston to become an inmate of his house, in company with Camilla, until the consent of her father was obtained, and the necessary preparations were made for their marriage. With respect to the feelings of the lover's family, tradition is silent; we may well believe that they were not favourable, for the union of the pair is known to have taken place at Jarrow Church, the ancient seat of the venerable Bede; a place of worship which, from some local prepossession, has been for ages the resort of young couples seeking to enter the bonds of wedlock without the consent of parents.

After the ceremony, the pair took up their residence with the lady's father at Gateshead, where they resided for some years. At length the death of his father made Lord Ossulston Earl of Tankerville, the second of the title; and Camilla Colville, as Countess, became entitled to the chief seat in the splendid balls

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of Chillingham Castle. Our heroine was afterwards one of the ladies of the bed-chamber to Queen Caroline, the consort of George II. She played her part as a peeress with a due portion of dignity and spirit, and continued, long after being the mother of three children, to be one of the most beautiful women at the English court. She survived her husband in a long dowagerhood, and died in 1775, at the age, it has been said, of 105; but this is probably a mistake, though it is likely that her term of years much exceeded that ordinarily allotted to the children of Adam.

DURHAM AND TYNE BRIDGE TURNPIKE ROAD AND BRANCH.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the Trustees of the said Road and Branch, is appointed to be held at the house of Mr. John Freeman, Innkeeper, in Gateshead, on Wednesday, the 10th day of March next, at 12 o'clock at noon.

By order of the Trustees,
THOMAS SWINBURNE, Clerk.

Gateshead, Feb. 11th, 1841.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of Proprietors will be held at the Three Indian Kings Inn, Quayside, on Monday, the 22d instant, at one o'clock, agreeably to the Deed of Settlement.—By order,

Newcastle, 1st February. JAMES POTTS, Secretary.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

WITH a decimal system for money, a decimal system for weights and measures is intimately associated; and as, in the former, I endeavoured to combine simplicity of detail with practical convenience, by the same considerations I shall be guided in framing a plan for the conversion of the latter. Experience has proved, that a rude attack upon ancient prejudice always retards, if it does not ultimately defeat its own purposes; but a new measure, founded upon correct principles, unostentatiously introduced, I have no doubt would gradually and silently work its way, and supersede what is unsound in ancient practice. The attempt which was made, a few years ago, to introduce a uniform system of weights and measures, was defeated, partly by inattention to such considerations, but mainly by an unwise attempt to combine scientific principles with ancient practice, which brought out new subdivisions equally arbitrary and unscientific with any of those which it was proposed to supersede; consequently, people, seeing no inducement to adopt the new system, continued in the practice of the old in all its variety, notwithstanding the penal statutes which were enacted to enforce the change.

But although legislative efforts to establish a uniform system of weights and measures, have been so far unsuccessful, they have, by establishing a standard basis for all subdivisions and multiples, been productive of important public utility. These standards are now fully recognized, and an alteration of them will probably never be thought of. The only want now is, subdivisions and multiples, to bring them into harmony with a decimal system. The simplest plan of effecting this will be the best; and when such a plan has been determined upon, and declared by Government, and adopted in their accounts, it will soon come into general practice, superseding all other systems, without the aid of penal enactments to enforce it.

The plan I propose for weights is very similar to the decimal system I have proposed for money, and equally simple in its details. In this case I take the pound avoirdupoise for the standard; and any names I shall adopt for the subdivisions and multiples, are necessary for the purpose of illustration, and not from an idea that they have any intrinsic merit. I have selected such, however, as have an English characteristic; which, I think, are preferable to any from a foreign language.

The plan will be best understood by stating it according to the customary practice of computing weights, by three gradations, and in columns, as at present. Taking the pound weight as the standard, I propose multiples of that unit, for the divisions of weights up to 100lbs., thus:—

1lb
10lb = 1 counter.
100lb = 10 counters = 1 tally.

And the notation will be thus:—

tal.	crs.	lb		Decimally.
5	6	4	6-10	5.646
2	7	9	9-10	2.791
1	5	6	3-10	1.563
10	0	0		10.000 tallies.
				or, 100.00 counters.
				or, 1000.0 lb.
				or, 10000. tenths of lb.

It is evident from the above example, that the columns are not essential to the plan; but I have no doubt they will be found useful in practice.

The decimal point, in the example without columns, is expressive of the value of the different figures. Where it stands to the right of 10, it expresses 10 tallies. By removing it to the right of the next figure, it converts the 10 tallies into 100 counters.

So far, the utility of such a plan of notation is plain enough. What would be the effect of the new division in practice? Would it be found complex, and thereby create confusion in dealings? If such would be its effect, it would be the reverse of an improvement, and things had better remain as they are. I contend, however, it would be exceedingly simple in practice, (particularly in connection with a decimal system of money,) and that it would gradually, and without confusion, supersede the old division of weights, which would silently fall into disuse. The 56lb, 28lb, 14lb and 7lb weights, would then be set aside, and be replaced by weights of 50lbs, 40lbs, 30lbs, 20lbs, 10lbs. and 5lbs; by which all dealings would be performed. The 10lb and 5lb, by the name of counter and half-counter, will probably supersede the stone and half-stone, without any legislative enactment. A set of weights for a dealer would then consist of as many 50lb weights as the usual size of packages he dealt in required, and two 20lb, one 10lb, one 5lb, and some lb weights. *Under* the weight of 1lb, the tenths of a pound should be substituted for ounces; but I think it would be convenient to allow ounce weights to continue also; for they are the connecting link, to determine the standard of a pound weight down to grains; which I think it would be inexpedient to interfere with.

As to the denominations of weights beyond the hundredweight, they were never anything else but nominal, and may be left unnoticed by the new system, as it is most likely they will fall into disuse. Goods of a bulky nature have always been most generally bought and sold by the hundredweight, notwithstand-

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ing of the term "ton"; and therefore the only difference will be, that the "tally" (100 lb) of the new system, will take the place of the "cwt" (112 lb) of the old. It is a sufficiently high denomination of weight for all the purposes of commerce, and easily extended by computation to a ton, if at any time it should be necessary or desirable to do so.

With regard to measures of liquids, I think the gallon should be the highest denomination of measure. For the most part it is so already in practice, and found to be sufficient for all the purposes of commerce. Subdivisions of it into tenths, ist he only alteration which I think it requires to give it a decimal character.

For measures of dry goods, such as corn, the same gallon should be used (which, indeed, is the standard for that description of goods at present,) but it would be required to be carried to a higher denomination of measure, for the convenience of commerce; and this I propose to accomplish by setting aside the present peck (which is 2 gallons), bushel (which is 8 gallons), and quarter (which is 8 bushels), and substituting for them—

10 gallons = 1 bushel royal:
100 gallons = 10 bushels royal = quarter royal:

Which will bring measures under the same system of notation as money and weights—as will be seen by the following example:—

q.r.	b.r.	g.	Decimally.
5	6	4 6-10	5.646
2	7	9 1-10	2.791
1	5	6 3-10	1.563
10	0	0	10.000 quarters royal.
			or, 100.00 bushels royal.
			or, 1000.0 gallons.
			or, 10000. tenths of gallons.

STAMP-RETURNS:—REACTION AND RETALIATION.

We have always said that the day of retaliation and retribution would arrive—that the deception, hypocrisy, and mendacity of the enemy would be revealed. The *denouement* we prophesied, we now lay before our readers. The boasted circulation of the *Newcastle Journal*—the impudent pretension to the leadership of the Northern Press, assumed by that braggart establishment—is now exposed, in all its nakedness, before the world. The *Observer* now doubles the circulation of its opponent—and doubles it, not by any sudden *elancement* into activity, but by the gradually increasing patronage which has been afforded it by the public of the northern counties. For this encouragement—for the approbation which it implies of our public services—we express our gratitude, and pass on to contrast the *Journal* with the *Observer*:—

NUMBER OF STAMPS SUPPLIED, ACCORDING TO PARLIAMENTARY RETURNS.

	1838.	1840.
To the *Gateshead Observer*	99,232	108,000
To the *Newcastle Journal*	155,000	49,000

"Look at *this* picture, and on *that*."—A comparison presents the following gratifying results:—

Weekly INCREASE of the *Observer*	149
Weekly DECREASE of the *Journal*	2,068
Weekly CIRCULATION of the *Observer*, 1840	2,076
Weekly CIRCULATION of the *Journal*, 1840	943

Comment is unnecessary, even had we space to spare—which we have not, having only received the latest of the Returns on the eve of publication.

EXCISE RETURNS.

AUCTIONS—AMOUNT OF SALES.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Gateshead, and North Shields.

1830	£31,256	1835	£27,706
1831	21,609	1836	29,407
1832	27,120	1837	45,920
1833	46,919	1838	35,541
1834	28,057	1839	22,694

BRICKS—QUANTITY MADE.

	South Shields.	Newcastle, Gateshead, and N. Shields.
1830	2,738,725	12,184,025
1831	2,938,725	11,914,725
1832	2,894,300	10,254,325
1833	2,536,725	12,056,175
1834	2,687,125	12,494,450
1835	3,043,800	16,064,275
1836	2,109,655	14,345,050
1837	3,006,375	20,421,242
1838	2,870,525	19,341,538
1839	2,938,375	23,293,550

GLASS.

	Newcastle and Gateshead.		Sunderland and S. Shields.	
	CWTS.	DUTY.	CWTS.	DUTY.
1830	135,022	£172,661	123,503	£123,925
1831	121,671	171,977	107,319	121,102
1832	117,580	170,983	110,187	133,196
1833	127,772	197,480	139,733	158,156
1834	129,040	204,279	151,833	182,768
1835	149,188	218,044	154,692	178,248
1836	150,766	201,366	178,915	178,198
1837	151,806	201,098	177,494	178,745
1838	138,737	169,444	180,829	191,970
1839	135,352	158,389	196,434	193,232

PAPER.

	Newcastle, Gateshead, and N. Shields.	Richmond, Barnard Castle, Durham, and Sunderland.
1830	lb3,350,958	lb1,755,727
1831	3,225,470	1,596,807
1832	3,311,439	1,645,752
1833	3,770,004	1,784,860
1834	3,742,632	1,749,640
1835	4,768,898	2,031,635
1836	4,734,099	2,237,401
1837	4,591,896	2,255,900
1838	4,840,432	2,527,629
1839	5,309,425	3,106,645

SOAP.

Newcastle Collection.

1830	lb7,152,866	1835	lb7,599,051
1831	6,648,352	1836	5,874,798
1832	6,982,049	1837	3,319,333
1833	7,566,977	1838	2,553,379
1834	6,992,960	1839	2,532,257

	Gateshead.	N. Shields.	S. Shields.
1833	NONE.	lb70,449	NONE.
1834	NONE.	500,994	NONE.
1835	lb2,686,854	424,826	NONE.
1836	3,212,997	NONE.	lb419,920
1837	3,115,498	NONE.	693,543
1838	2,832,720	NONE.	1,094,265
1839	2,137,943	NONE.	1,122,495

MALT.

Newcastle, Gateshead, N. Shields, Morpeth, and Berwick.		Barnard Castle, Durham, Sunderland, S. Shields, and Richmond.	
BUSHELS.	BUSHELS.	BUSHELS.	BUSHELS.
1830....219,676	1835....413,495	1830....159,292	1835....238,775
1831....273,512	1836....431,787	1831....196,801	1836....253,486
1832....323,417	1837....406,916	1832....207,382	1837....245,897
1833....386,156	1838....366,486	1833....200,799	1838....234,101
1834....415,306	1839....356,506	1834....226,008	1839....223,729

SPIRITS.

Newcastle and Gateshead.

1830	15,291 galls.	1835	73,106 galls.
1831	64,281 galls.	1836	72,769 galls.
1832	73,103 galls.	1837	80,074 galls.
1833	83,917 galls.	1838	91,516 galls.
1834	74,426 galls.	1839	87,006 galls.

☞ Duty in 1839, £26,308.

NUMBER OF LICENSES.

	Newcastle.	Gateshead.	N. Shields.	Sunderland.
1830	2,402	1,005	1,352	2,371
1831	1,972	769	1,320	2,485
1832	2,498	1,193	1,432	2,637
1833	2,530	1,248	1,341	2,661
1834	2,590	1,274	1,485	2,680
1835	2,777	1,308	1,513	2,666
1836	2,853	1,311	1,515	2,384
1837	2,913	1,376	1,579	2,418
1838	3,047	1,421	1,651	2,530
1839	3,087	1,470	1,581	2,562

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GATESHEAD HIGHWAY CESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—The celebrated Lord Bacon has said, "that a man is almost positive in proportion as he is ignorant." An anonymous communication in your last week's paper, signed W**k****n, has very angrily and unjustly charged the surveyors of the parish roads with partiality, and the "misappropriating" the funds committed to their charge. He also argues in a strange way that the roads made 20 years ago were *quite perfect*, and wonders why he should have to pay a sixpenny rate now and for so many years back: he then goes on very basely to insinuate that the church road, and grand substantial seats thereon, have cost the parish an enormous sum, and also asks at whose EXPENSE this has been done—not at the expense of the inhabitants of the Low Fell, says he, for whose use it was made (prodigious!) but at the expense of the whole(!) of the ratepayers, not a a fifth of whom use it. He then complains of a road leading from Wrekenton to Usworth, upon which a stone or rake has not been laid this winter, and that he is up to the ancles in mud, and that the carriage doors and windows are "besprinkled" with the disgusting material, &c. &c.

In the first place, had your correspondent complained to any of the surveyors of the bad state of the road at Wrekenton, I am quite sure he would have been attended to immediately. The *foreman* is the person *expected* to look after those roads, and for which he is PAID. It is "too bad" to charge respectable tradesmen, appointed to an office of trust at a public parish meeting, with "misappropriating" the funds. I never knew an instance of it but *one*, some 6 or 7 years ago, and that was an inhabitant of Wrekenton, who, after he had collected the rate, "cut and run," leaving the ratepayers minus £50 or £60!!

In the second place, his advocating the Gateshead Fell roads, made 20 years ago, most satisfactorily confirms the opinion of the poet when he says—

"For the wise heads at Wrekenton mushroom town,
Had laboured to settle their few simple points;
That the horses delight in an *up* and a *down*,
That a *hill* clears their wind and relaxes their joints."

Thirdly.—If I am right informed a sixpennny rate was made last year to make up the loss sustained by the parish, by the defalcation of the Wrekenton surveyor, and there had not been more than a rate of 3d. or 4d. per pound annually for many years previously.

Fourthly.—I now come to what your correspondent calls the "grand road, with its substantial seats," costing the parish a great expense, &c., and beg to draw his attention to the following:—

Subscriptions for erecting seats on the Church-road, Gateshead Fell, August 30, 1839.	s.	d.
Rev. William Atkinson	5	0
J. Cout	5	0
Mrs. Gibsone	2	6
Miss Johnson	2	6
Thomas Brett	1	6
Mrs. Jackson	2	6
J. G. Soppet	2	6
John Edwards	2	6
Matthew Plummer	5	0
Samuel Kent	5	0
R. Robson	2	6
J. R. Wilson	2	6
John Patton	2	6
Thomas Wilson	2	6
Benjamin Grey	5	0
Thomas Sowerby	5	0
Thomas Ferguson	2	6
John Geldard	2	6
	£2 19	0

1839 DISBURSEMENTS.			
Sept. 14, Thomas Liddell, for 4 new seats on Church-road.	£1	12	0
25th, John Dixon, for painting 4 new seats on Church-road.	0	3	6
Nov. 5, Cuth. Young, for collecting subscriptions, &c.	0	4	0
1840.			
May 7, Thos. Liddell, for a new seat for Church-road.	0	13	0
7th, John Dixon, for painting seats on Church-road.	0	6	6
	£2	19	0

Examined and found correct.—ROBERT HETHERINGTON.

Comment after this will be useless, and I hope it will have the effect of curbing such bad insinuations in future. At the same time I respectfully invite him, when passing down the church road, to "take a seat," and while there, to turn the following advice over in his mind, viz., when calling attention to any public abuse, state nothing but facts; and for him to consult a few of his neighbours before the appointment of surveyors, which will take place in Gateshead Vestry, I believe, some time time next month. Let them select a proper person from amongst themselves. I know many very worthy individuals at Wrekenton, who, if appointed, would fill the office with honour to themselves, and advantage to the "country district." Let them get a proposer and seconder, and I have no doubt of his being elected; but, above all, let the ratepayers at Wrekenton attend and support the nomination, hoping that, in future, *he* (for I know him well) will desist from vilifying and traducing his neighbours' character, but will follow the golden maxim, viz., to do unto others as he would wish to be done by.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Feb. 25, 1841. L*w F**L.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, all those THREE FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSES, containing, together, eleven rooms and two attics, situate on the West Side of the High-street, Gateshead, and on the South Side of, and adjoining, the Dispensary, with the Yard and Painter's Shop belonging thereto, belonging to the Boroughholders and Freemen of Gateshead, now in the occupation of Thomas Simpson, Mark Maddison, and others, with the Borough Right appurtenant thereto.

And also, all that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, situate at Bensham, also belonging to the said Boroughholders and Freemen, and now in the occupation of Mr Thomas Rawling, together with the Stable, Byers, and other conveniences belonging thereto; and a large Garden, Grass Plot, and Yard thereto adjoining, containing 1688 square yards, or thereabouts.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. William Kenmir, or Joseph Davie, the Stewards of the Borough; Messrs. James Pollock, William Hymers, or John Lister, the Trustees for Sale, or Mr. SWINBURNE, Solicitor, Gateshead.

GATESHEAD BOROUGH PROPERTY.

PUBLIC NOTICE.—The following Notice was served on the Auctioneer, at the attempted Sale by Auction of certain "Valuable Properties belonging to the Boroughholders and Freemen of the Borough of Gateshead," at the Borough Arms Inn, on the 16th of February, 1841; but, by advice of the Solicitor to the Vendors, was not read by the Auctioneer to the persons assembled. It is, therefore, thought only fair to the said persons, and to the public in general, to give the present publicity thereunto:—

"TO MESSRS. SMALL & BROUGH, AUCTIONEERS.—We, the undersigned Boroughholders of the Borough of Gateshead, do hereby give you Notice that the Sale by Auction of the Valuable Properties belonging to the Boroughholders and Freemen of the Borough of Gateshead, announced to be made by you at the Borough Arms Inn, Windmill Hills, Gateshead, on Tuesday, the 16th day of February, 1841, is intended to be made without our assent, consent, or authority; and that in case such sale shall be proceeded in, all parties engaged therein shall proceed at their peril. Dated this 15th day of February, 1841.

"W. H. BROCKETT,
"JAMES HYMERS,
"WILLIAM KELL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Your columns every week furnish us with such lengthened accounts of teetotal demonstrations and teetotal soirees, &c., held in all parts of the two counties, that one would really suppose the appearance amongst us of that great apostle, Father Mathew, could make but few more converts to that wide-spreading and excellent cause. But, Sir, it has often struck me as "passing strange," that the leaders and ruling men who figure amongst the teetotallers have never bethought themselves of striking at the foundation of drunkenness, &c., existing amongst that useful class of men, the pitmen on the Tyne and Wear. That they have done great things no one can doubt, but I would like to see them, in this case, probe the wound to the bottom, eradicate all the rotten and unsound parts, and thereby perform a radical cure—for while there is an unlawful temptation held out to working men by those in authority over them, how can it be expected that intemperance can be banished without an effort, of a kind which has not yet been made. I would therefore, Sir, beg to suggest the following plan on a small scale as a beginning, and take the immediate neighbourhood of this borough for the scene of operations, viz., that the several colliery districts take the business up in any way they think most likely to gain so very desirable an object. I must, however, take the liberty of suggesting that a petition be got up and sent to the largest coalowners in this district, viz., the Grand Allies. In it I would have embodied the sad depravity, the misery, and wret-

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chedness consequent upon "tied pay houses;" for to see a poor creature, with four or five fine little fellows, his sons, waiting two or three hours, for their hard-got earnings, in such a place, where blasphemy and every temptation, plan, and device, is brought into operation to entrap them—yes, and

Where it's the *interest* of the *viewer*,
Who, perhaps, is half a *brewer*,

to keep them there, through their agents, until they spend their *whole all*. Aye, there's the rub; or, as Martin, the Christian Philosopher, says, "this is cause and effect with a vengeance." I would have pointed out in strong, yet respectful language, the great good that would arise from the workmen being paid at the colliery office. Silver and all kinds of change are plentiful enough (for be it known every man attending the pay house is compelled to spend sixpence, or, in other words, to drink the "hog-wash" that is sold at those places on such occasions: it often occurs that he is forced to take a glass of spirits, the ale is so bad). The many blessings that would arise from this plan are incalculable: the workman could go there for his pay, and return to his expectant wife and family with it, when she would then have a chance of providing for their happiness and comfort during the incoming fortnight. It is a well known fact, that by the time the "notes" arrive at the pay-house, many of the poor fellows are half tipsy: then it is that the behaviour of the parents before the poor children is often disgusting, depraved, and indecent. Educated in such a school, the copy must be contaminated by the original; and if so, how can we expect a pure stream from so muddy a fountain? A gentleman observes, who well knew the nature of such things:—

The money matters thus decided,
They push the pot more briskly round;
With hearts elate and hobbies strided,
Their cares are all in nappy drowned.

See on their right a gambling few,
Whose every word and look display
A desperate, dark, designing few,
Intent upon each other's pay.

I would not wish, sir, to be misunderstood as depriving the poor, hard-working man of his pint of ale at the end of the pay week. Any thing but that; for I have yet to learn what harm he can take from having his glass of beer with his family at home, or neighbours at a public house on a Saturday evening. It is from the baneful effects of the "*tied*" public houses, the very CURSE of the neighbourhood wherein they are situated, that I would wish to have the pitmen liberated. After receiving his wages, let him, like other workmen, lay it out to the best possible advantage. Until that is done, and he can use his own discretion on that point, the teetotallers cannot expect any great accession of strength to their ranks from that useful and important body of men.

I have a sermon before me preached by the Rev. John Collinson, of Lamesley, to the teetotallers of Newcastle; and an excellent speech delivered to the same body by that esteemed friend of teetotallers, Colonel Trotter. Let the petition be intrusted to one or both of those worthy gentlemen for presentation, and I have no doubt of the result being in favour of the workmen, viz., to be *paid at the colliery office*, and the complete overthrow of the *tied* pay-houses—those diabolical filthy sinks of iniquity and vice.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
Wrekenton, Feb. 25, 1841. TEMPERANCE.

EXECUTIONS.

THE period has now arrived, when the great experiment of replacing by more moderate penalties the exterminating enactments of former times, has been tried by the test of full experience; and the Committee of the Anti-Capital Punishment Society congratulate the public upon the eminent success which has marked the transition from a system of indiscriminate rigour to one of great comparative mercy.

In the year 1821, there were 114 executions in England and Wales. In 1828, the number was reduced to 59; in 1836, to 17; and in 1838, it was only 6.

That this change has been effected without diminishing, even in the slightest degree, the security of the persons and properties of men, is a matter of the clearest evidence—the evidence of actual experience, which cannot be disputed or falsified. The Government Returns prove, that there have been fewer highway robberies in the last six years, with 5 executions, than in the preceding six years, with 41 executions; that there have been fewer acts of burglary and housebreaking in the last seven years, with only 3 executions, than in the preceding seven years, when 66 persons suffered death for those crimes; that there has been less horse-stealing in the last ten years, without any execution, than in the preceding ten years, during which, for that offence alone, 48 convicts were sent to the scaffold.

Whatever experience has been acquired by this unexampled reform in the administration of public justice, has, at least, been safely and innocently gained. Some hundreds of offenders, had they committed their crimes a few years before, would have died by the hand of the executioner. They have been allowed to live. Life, the only season of repentance, with all its opportunities of regaining the favour of an offended Deity, has been mercifully continued to them; and from this lenity society has derived no injury, no loss. Who then can fail to rejoice at a result so consoling to humanity?

One question only remains.—Reflecting men will ask, after so many accumulated proofs of the inefficacy of capital punishment, Why should it be retained at all? Reasoning minds will inquire—Is the execution of six persons in a year so essential to social security, that we must still continue to uphold the revolting machinery of the scaffold?

For murder, no less than other crimes, the penalty of death, as an example, is momentary, and of no beneficial effect:—it disgusts the good, and brutalizes the bad, who witness the spectacle of man cruelly destroyed by man:—as an act of extreme violence, it teaches violence to the people:—as an act of deliberate homicide, it diminishes the regard due to the sanctity of life, and renders murder less revolting to the uninstructed mind. For murder, as well as other crimes, it too often leads to impunity through the suppression of evidence by the associates or acquaintance of the criminal, who recoil at the thought of becoming accessory to the death of one with whom they had formerly lived on terms of familiar intercourse.

The Committee invite the attention of the public to the importance of the fact, that there have been fewer commitments for murder in the last three years, when the executions for that crime were 23, [or about 7 annually,] than in the three years preceding, when the executions were 41, [or almost 14 annually.] Similar results have followed the partial disuse of the punishment of death for murder in France and Prussia; and in Belgium, the discontinuance of the capital penalty, during five successive years ending with 1834, was accompanied by a diminution in the number of murders. Thus experience proves, that in order to render the laws against crime reformatory, they must cease to be revengeful.

It is true, the punishment of death is judicially said, like all other punishment, to be, not for revenge but example:—but, as it has notoriously failed in the way of example, what purpose can its infliction serve, unless the gratification of revenge? Let it then be entirely repealed, and some punishment substituted which does not shock the natural feelings of mankind, and is therefore more capable of uniform execution! By the abolition of it we should teach men forbearance by the high example of the laws, and inculcate the sacredness of life on that supreme authority; while the retention of it for murder answers none of the real ends of justice, but serves only, by exacting "blood for blood," to encourage a savage spirit of retaliation, in utter variance with the gentle temper of Christianity, and itself the fruitful parent of atrocious crimes. WILLIAM ALLEN, Chairman of the Committee.

40, Trinity-square, Tower-hill, London, 1840.

ANCIENT LIVING.

[The journal of Elizabeth Woodville was found among several ancien manuscripts at Drummond Castle, and given to the public by Lady Ruthven. The fair journalist, first married to Lord Grey, of Groby, in the county of Leicester, was afterwards exalted to the Throne as the Queen of Edward the Fourth, but only to be depressed below the happy sphere from which she had been originally raised, Henry the Seventh having confined her in Southwark, where she died in 1486, a prisoner. The scene of the following extract from her diary is the pleasant village and vicinity of Groby, near Bradgate—a scene still further hallowed in English history by its association with Lady Jane Grey. It was at Bradgate where Roger Ascham found Lady Jane perusing an ancient author, while her companions were pursuing the sports of the field. The ruins and park of Bradgate are at this day a favourite place of resort with holiday pilgrims from Leicester, &c.; and many there are, we trust, who, amid their mirth, bestow at least a passing sigh to the memory of Lady Jane Grey and Elizabeth Woodville.]

MONDAY MORNING.—Rose at four o'clock, and helped Catherine to milk the cows; Rachael, the other dairy-maid, having scalded her hand in so bad a manner the night before. Made a poultice for Rachael, and gave Robin a penny to get something from the apothecary.

Six o'clock.—The beef too much boiled, and beer a little of the stalest. *Mem.* To talk to the cook about the first fault, and to mend the second myself, by tapping a fresh barrel directly.

Seven o'clock.—Went to walk with the lady my mother, in the courtyard. Fed 25 men and women. Chid Rodger severely for expressing some ill-will at attending us with broken meat.

Eight o'clock.—Went into the paddock behind the house with my maid Dorothy. Caught Thump, the little pony, myself, and rode a matter of six miles, without saddle or bridle.

Ten o'clock.—Went to dinner. John Grey a most comely youth—but what is that to me? A virtuous maiden should be entirely under the direction of her parents. John ate but little, and stole a great many tender glances at me. Said women would never be handsome, in his opinion, who were not good-tempered. I hope my temper is not intolerable. Nobody finds fault with it but Roger, and he is the most disorderly serving man in our family. John Grey loves white teeth. I think my teeth are of a pretty good colour; and my hair is as black as jet, though I say it; and John, if I mistake not, is of the same opinion.

Eleven o'clock.—Rose from the table—the company all desirous of walking in the fields. John Grey would lift me over every stile, and

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twice squeezed my hand with much vehemence. I cannot say I should have any objection to John Grey: he plays at prison base as well as any of the country gentlemen—is remarkably dutiful to his parents, my Lord and Lady—and never misses church on a Sunday.

Three o'clock.—Poor farmer Robinson's house burnt down by accidental fire. John Grey proposed a subscription among the company for the relief of the farmer, and gave no less than four pounds with this benevolent intent.—*Mem.* Never saw him look so comely as at that moment.

Four o'clock.—Went to prayers.

Six o'clock.—Fed the hogs and poultry.

Seven o'clock.—Supper on the table—delayed till that hour on account of farmer Robinson's misfortune.—*Mem.* The goose-pie too much baked, and the pork roasted to rags.

Nine o'clock.—The company fast asleep: these late hours very disagreeable. Said my prayers a second time: John Grey distracted my thoughts too much the first time. Fell asleep, and dreamed of John Grey.

THE IMPORT DUTIES.

We have elsewhere inserted a series of resolutions, agreed to at a meeting of the Members of the House of Commons, held at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, on Saturday last. It will be seen that the meeting, consisting of members representing many of the most important commercial and manufacturing constituencies of the United Kingdom, have deemed the time come when a general revision of our commercial code, and reduction of the duties on imports, ought no longer to be delayed. This conviction they share with nearly all the productive classes throughout the country; and it gives us great satisfaction to perceive indications, not to be mistaken, of a general movement to break down the various restrictions and monopolies by which our commerce and industry are so much paralyzed. Various causes have concurred in producing the conviction that a great effort must now be made, but no one cause has been more efficacious than the diffusion of the report of the committee of last session on import duties, and more especially the valuable evidence of Messrs. Hume, Porter, and M'Gregor.

The members who met at the Thatched House refer to the report in question as strengthening the opinions previously entertained with reference to the evils of the present restrictive system, and observe that, besides the taxes paid by the people for revenue purposes, they are charged an enhanced price upon many necessary articles of consumption beyond that paid by the people of foreign countries, whereby encouragement is given to the establishment of rival manufacturing interests abroad; and referring to the admitted failure of the addition of a considerable per centage to the existing taxes, which the public expenditure has increased, and to the various expedients by which the deficiency may be met, they declare their decided opinion *that the financial difficulties of the country, and the wants of the consumer, will best be met by a general revision and reduction of the duties on imports.*

Lord Melbourne significantly observed, three years ago, that it must depend on the people themselves whether the restrictive policy shall or shall not be relaxed. He resisted the motion for inquiries into the corn-laws, avowedly on the principle that the commercial system of a nation must not be lightly changed; but really, we have no doubt, because the pressure from without was not of sufficient momentum to enable him to bear down the monopolists within. But Lord Melbourne is an intelligent reader of the signs of the times; and he cannot fail to perceive, that whether Whigs or Tories hold the reins of government, the country will insist on obtaining from them a removal of the restrictions which oppress our industry. It was observed by a speaker at the late annual meeting of the Manchester Anti-Corn-Law Association, "that there were indications now of a yielding movement amongst the dry bones: the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Times*, the *Manchester Chronicle*, and the *Manchester Guardian*, four papers not very apt to agree with each other on ordinary occasions, were all coming forward, and agreeing upon the propriety of a revision of our tariff."

The meeting at the Thatched House voted that a copy of the resolutions, signed by the Chairman, be transmitted to Lord Melbourne. His lordship will know what that signifies. Everything depends upon the time at which it is proposed. The Reform Bill came at the proper time, and the proposed reduction of the duties on imports, if now adopted by the Government, may strengthen it; but if not adopted, it will assuredly destroy the Government. A crisis is at hand. There are Tories who are aware of this, and who might not be unwilling to avail themselves of an opportunity like the present for enlisting the sympathies of the great body of the producers in their support.—*Morning Chronicle.* [The resolutions appear in our advertising columns.—Ed. G. O.]

DESTRUCTION OF WYNYARD HALL.

(From our "Third Edition," Feb. 20.)

In our usual second edition of this week, we have stated that Wynyard Castle, the seat of the Marquis of Londonderry, near Stockton-upon-Tees, in this county, was discovered to be on fire on Friday, the 19th inst., and was (either wholly or partly) destroyed. We have since received a communication from a correspondent at Stockton, dated this day. The writer states:—

Last night, Wynyard Hall, with all its splendid furniture, valuable paintings, &c., was destroyed by fire; and, so far as I can learn, the disaster originated in the flues of the conservatory. The fire was discovered by the servants at about 9 P.M., and they endeavoured, till nearly midnight, to extinguish the flames. Their efforts proving ineffectual, they sent for assistance to this town (which, you know, is more than four miles distant); and the engines were dispatched at 1 o'clock, many of the inhabitants accompanying them. Mr. R. Parkin, the joiner, and Mr. Bell, the carver and gilder, were conspicuously active in rescuing furniture, paintings, and other valuable property, from the fire; but very little, comparatively, could be saved; and the few articles which escaped destruction, were most of them injured. The once-magnificent mansion is now a ruined shell. The servants' hall and two of the Marchioness's rooms are all that have survived the wreck: the remainder of the edifice presents nothing to the eye but bare and burning walls. The loss is estimated at from £300,000 to £500,000.

We have not heard whether the property was insured, but we should think that this protection would not be neglected.

The Marquis and Marchioness are at present abroad.

(From the *Tyne Mercury*, Feb. 23.)

The watchers of his lordship's preserves, it would appear, in going their rounds between eleven and twelve o'clock on Friday night last, having perceived a great quantity of smoke rising in the direction of the hall, and soon afterwards flames, they immediately proceeded towards it, and found it on fire. Their first efforts were directed in arousing the inmates, consisting of two females only, and it was with some difficulty that they were made acquainted with their perilous situation. The wind being strong, the flames made rapid progress. There was an engine on the premises, but it was useless from being out of repair. Messengers were dispatched to Stockton and Sunderland for engines, but the stately building was half consumed before any arrived; and, indeed, when they reached the spot, they were of little avail, from their being out of repair. The fire continued to rage with unabated fury, and every exertion was now made to save as much of the costly furniture, paintings, &c., as could be done with personal safety. In this respect, we are happy to say, the parties were in a great degree successful, yet a vast quantity of valuable articles fell a prey to the devouring element.

The intelligence of the fire was sent to Durham at 5 o'clock on Saturday morning, by a special messenger to George Hunter, Esq., of Pensher, the Marquis's principal agent, who immediately proceeded to the scene of desolation, and found the building still burning at 8 o'clock.

It is to be regretted that there were no effective engines at Stockton, as it is apprehended the building might have been in a great measure saved, there being a fishpond close to the hall, from which a plentiful supply of water could have been obtained. The whole of the building is destroyed, except the kitchen and some servants' apartments.

The fire is supposed to have originated in the chapel, by the overheating of the flues. The damage is estimated at £150,000, The whole of the plate in the establishment was secured, which was of great value. The building is insured, but we could not ascertain to what amount. Considerable sums were a few years ago expended in enlarging and beautifying it, and it was considered to be one of the most superb mansions in the north.

[Mr. James Atkinson, superintendent of the Stockton fire-engines, states that the *Mercury* is incorrect in its statement that they were out of repair; and adds, that they were at Wynyard as soon as possible after the alarm reached Stockton.]

(From the *Globe*, Feb. 23.)

The destructive fire which consumed Lord Londonderry's mansion is supposed to have originated from one of the flues bursting in the chapel, which forms the west wing of the premises. The engines were procured from Stockton as soon as possible. On their arrival they found the whole of the west

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wing, comprising the chapel, conservatory, and the spacious ball-room adjoining, in a complete blaze. There was excellent assistance rendered by the villagers and all on the spot; and in a short time the lawn was covered with mirrors of large dimensions, chandeliers, valuable paintings, and all kinds of costly furniture, as well as the greater part of the library, the books lying in a promiscuous heap.

Nearly all present were zealously employed in using their utmost endeavours to arrest the progress of the flames; but, alas, to no purpose. The entire building, including the picture gallery, and the princely suite of rooms extending from the conservatory to her ladyship's boudoir, lined with satin-wood, was in one general conflagration—red-hot rafters, beams, and cornices cracking and falling in all directions, and every window on all sides vomiting immense flames, which shed a bright light around, almost equal in brilliancy to the splendour of day; while myriads of sparks rose from the interior of the building, and then descending, fell like a shower of fire upon the earth. The scene altogether at this time was awfully grand.

During the space of two hours the engines continued to play without intermission upon the advancing flames, but without effect. The fire had got too strong a hold, and, fiercely raging in a direction from west to east, first from one room and then to another, it appeared to be above all human control.

The persons who worked and fed the engines, fatigued with exertion, and not perceiving the least possible chance of subduing the fire, now began to slacken their efforts. They were, however, soon instigated to renewed exertions by the exhortations of the Rev. Mr. Collinson, incumbent of Trinity church, Stockton, who, with the Rev. Mr. Bousfield, curate of Stockton, and the Rev. Mr. Maister, curate of Stainton, in Yorkshire, much to their credit, set a good example, by sparing no bodily exertion themselves. At length the whole of the broadest part of the building being nearly consumed, and the greatest part of the roof having fallen in, the engines were removed to the east end of the premises, comprising servants' bed-rooms, the servants' hall, kitchens, extensive stabling, &c. Here, in consequence of the building being a great deal more narrow, it was imagined the engines might play effectively. Another attempt was then made to hinder the flames from extending further towards the east; and at the expiration of two hours more, the engines playing well, this part of the property was fortunately saved from destruction.

With the exception of the east end, the building now presented to the eye a complete mass of ruins, nothing being left standing but the bare walls and the noble-looking colonnade at the north entrance. The orange and other trees in the conservatory were burnt to a cinder; and at one time, when they were enveloped in flames, their appearance was particularly singular and imposing.

(Extract from a Stockton Letter, dated Feb. 23.)

A person from Stockton, who was at the fire within half-an-hour of the arrival of the news, and upwards of an hour before the fire-engines, informs me that there was not a single bucket at hand to bring water from the fish-pond, but, at length, a few tin cans were procured. The destruction necessarily committed, to rescue property from the flames, was, according to his description, most grievous. Destitute of proper tools—unprovided with the keys of the treasures of the place—main force alone was available, to gain access to books, plate, &c. The progress of the flames was incredibly rapid. The cellars, which extended under the whole building, were as one vast fiery furnace, which, on the lee side, could not be approached within about fifty yards.

Some persons (to their shame be it spoken) have been detected in stealing what the flames had spared!

Lord Seaham, I hear, has arrived.

(From another Correspondent.)

This elegant and modern built mansion, fell a prey to fire on Friday night, the 19th ultimo. The fire was first perceived at the south-west end of the building, where the conservatory stood, by the huntsman, who had been attending to his hounds, half-past 12 A.M. The neighbourhood was quickly aroused, and the inhabitants of Wolviston, 2 miles distant, were at the scene of devastation within an hour. The engines arrived from Stockton about half-past 2, a distance of 5 miles. The flames had however got so great an ascendency that it was evident all must fall a prey. There were four engines on the spot, the one from Thornley Colliery having been promptly sent: they began playing upon the flames. The supply of water from the lake close to the house was abundant, but all to no avail. The noble mansion is a ruin. Owing to the substantial walls, the range of kitchens and stabling were saved. The mansion itself stands a mere shell; and what strikes the beholder, is the very little appearance of the destruction from a distance. The walls are very little blackened. The chimneys appear scarcely tarnished. The noble Grecian portico on the north is not injured, with the exception of the exterior roof. On a close inspection the chief external injury is the pieces of stone which have flown off, apparently by the action of the fire through the windows. These beautiful polished window jambs are completely spoilt. The conservatory presents a perfect ruin—the orange and other trees burnt down to the pots in which they stood, and here and there one whole stem alone has escaped perfect destruction. The cause of the fire appears to have been the usual agent of the destruction of such mansions—the overheating of the flues which warmed the house. Labourers are employed removing the rubbish, and endeavouring to find the spot where the flue was faulty. Some of the elegant and gorgeous furniture is saved. Some of the paintings also: among others, the Noble Lord's and Lady's by Lawrence: His Lordship in his Hussar Dress, mounted on his war horse, is a splendid production. The great defect, as usual on such melancholy occasions, was the want of a directing head. All seemed anxious to lend a helping hand, but for want of method much was unavailing. Thus a great deal was destroyed or injured which might have been saved. The ruins were smouldering on Tuesday, but no danger could be apprehended, as men were constantly pouring water from a hose upon them. Reports vary as to the first place the fire was perceived. Some think the chapel, which was unfinished, and in which workmen were employed, and it was warmed by hot air. There was a quantity of wood drying in the apartment, and being used in the finishing of the chapel &c., as a kind of workshop, would contain materials easily ignited. Wherever the fire broke out it tends to urge great caution in the use of hot air for warming apartments. The noble family being abroad, the house was in the care of the housekeeper and three maid-servants. It was the gardener's duty to attend to the conservatory stove. Great doings were in expectation at Wynyard when Lord Seaham came of age, which will be shortly. What a contrast! The police are watching around the mansion, as some persons have been detected in appropriating the stray property of his Lordship to themselves, and one woman lodged in durance to await her trial for her too great penchant for relic-hunting.

(From another Correspondent.)

At from 10 to 11, the watchmen, on going their rounds, saw fire and smoke issuing from the new buildings, when they alarmed the inmates and others, except some slaters, who were sleeping in part of the old buildings adjoining, and who continued in bed until 6 next morning. On turning out, they were much surprised to see all in ruins, and a considerable multitude of people at work getting out what furniture they were able, at the risk of their lives.

This day (Feb. 24) Mr. Macdonald and Lord Seaham arrived at Wynyard.

(From a London Paper.)

That part of the building which comprises the kitchens, and some portion of her ladyship's apartments, including the boudoir, though greatly damaged, have been preserved; and by the spirited exertions of several individuals, and particularly of two from Stockton, nearly the whole of his lordship's valuable paintings, and a great portion of the most valuable furniture, books, and fittings up of the several apartments, though injured, have been secured.

There is no one, whatever his feelings may be towards the Marquis, either politically or otherwise, but must most deeply sympathise with his lordship, the marchioness, and their family, on this sad event.

Mr. Hutt, M.P., has desired his name to be added to the subscribers to the intended building for public purposes in this borough.

Mr. Hutt, on Wednesday evening, gave notice, that on Tuesday, the 9th of March, he would call the attention of the House of Commons to the duties levied at Elsinore on vessels, under the name of Sound Dues.

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The Tyne Bridge parapet and balustrades, south of the "*blue stone*," are now being repaired in a substantial and excellent manner, at the sole cost, we understand, of the present excellent Bishop of the diocese; although, we believe, the worthy prelate, as well as the public, is perfectly satisfied that, *legally*, as we have clearly shown, the see of Durham is exempted from the charge, ample funds being invested under the Act of 1801 for the purpose. What is the reason, we again ask, that no account of the fund to which we allude, with its accumulations, is published for the satisfaction of the public. The Councillors of Newcastle, surely, must be asleep.

The stamps supplied to the newspapers of the North of England are stated as follows in the official returns:—

First Quarter of 1840	2d.	3d.	4th.	Total, 1840.	Total, 1838.
Carlisle Journal 28,565	26,000	26,000	26,000	106,565	100,000
Carlisle Patriot 5,813	8,000	11,000	11,000	35,813	42,000
Cumberland Pacquet.... 10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	50,000	37,300
Whitehaven Herald 9,700	10,000	12,000	11,000	42,700	33,500
Durham Chronicle..... 12,500	8,000	14,000	11,500	46,000	47,922
Durham Advertiser 10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000	35,900
Gateshead Observer..... 27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	108,000	99,232
Kendal Mercury 9,000	9,000	7,000	10,150	35,250	40,000
Westmorland Gazette .. 13,500	NIL.	7,000	17,000	37,500	30,000
Newcastle Courant..... 51,000	41,000	56,000	50,000	198,000	162,546
Newcastle Chronicle..... 39,500	39,000	39,000	39,000	156,500	168,500
Newcastle Journal ..... NIL.	41,000	NIL.	8,000	49,000	155,000
Tyne Mercury 6,000	6,000	6,000	9,550	27,550	28,500
Tyne Pilot 12,000	6,500	11,000	9,990	39,490	
Northern Times..... 15,000	15,000	11,000	17,000	58,000	*41,000
Sunderland Herald 10,000	10,000	14,000	15,000	49,000	58,419
Berwick Advertiser 8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	38,000	32,500
Berwick Warder..... 7,500	5,000	8,500	9,000	30,000	35,000

* This was the number supplied to the *Beacon*, the predecessor of the *Northern Times*.

We have given, in our fourth page, the details of the melancholy destruction of Wynyard Hall by fire, on the 19th and 20th inst., which we briefly announced in our second edition of the latter day. It may be interesting to some to know, that the Wynyard estate came to the Tempest family by purchase, a little more than a century ago—the then purchaser being John Tempest, Esq., of Old Durham, and the vendor, Mr. Rudd, a counsellor-at-law, who had purchased the property from the Davisons of Blakiston. The son of the above Mr. Tempest having lost an only son, bequeathed Wynyard to his nephew, Sir Henry Vane Tempest, Bart., who married Anne-Catherine, Countess of Antrim, and whose only daughter and heiress, the present Marchioness of Londonderry, on her marriage with the Marquis, on the 3rd April, 1819, conveyed the estate to her husband, with special remainder to her issue. Their eldest son, Lord Seaham, was born on the 26th of April, 1821. During the Commonwealth, the then owner of Wynyard, Mr. Davison, compounded for the estate for £400. In 1827, the Duke of Wellington was hospitably entertained by the present possessors, at Wynyard; and in 1829, the Marquis and Marchioness were exposed to imminent danger in the park, the pole of their carriage having broken, and the horses taken fright: they fortunately escaped, however, with but trifling hurt.

The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Marine Insurance Company held their half-yearly meeting on Monday, Feb. 22, at the Three Indian Kings, Quayside, (Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair,) when a satisfactory account was rendered of the half-year's transactions, and a dividend after the rate of ten per cent. per annum ordered to be paid; after which, a party of the proprietors dined together, in celebration of the success of the company, at the Three Indian Kings, (Mr. Wilson in the chair, and Mr. John Jobling vice,) and were highly gratified by the excellent providings of "mine host," Mr. Webb.

Alexander Selkirk.—All who have delighted in Robinson Crusoe—and who has not?—will feel interested in learning that there is at present residing at Canonmills, near Edinburgh, a grand-nephew of the veritable Alexander Selkirk or Selcraig—the original, it is supposed, of that remarkable character. We need not remind our readers that Alexander Selkirk resided four years and four months in the uninhabited island of Juan Fernandez, and that it is upon his adventures during that period the immortal work of De Foe is alleged to be founded. Selkirk's grand-nephew, to whom we have alluded, is Mr. John Selcraig, an aged and respectable man, struggling with adverse fortune. Knowing his indigent circumstances, we have suggested that he might leave the relics of his grand-uncle, which have fallen into his possession, at our office, and that they might be the means of attracting notice, and obtaining for him some little contributions. They are only two in number, a walking-stick and a flip-can. The latter is thus alluded to in Howell's Life of Selkirk:—"By far the most interesting relic is the flip-can, in the possession of his great-grand-nephew, John Selcraig. It holds about a Scottish pint, and is made of brown stoneware, glazed: it resembles a common porter-jug, as used at the present day. On it is the following inscription and posy—as, in former times, every thing belonging to a sailor that would admit of it had its rhyme:—

Alexander Salkurke, this is my one.
When you me take on bord of ship,
Pray fill me full with punch or flipp.
Fulham."

[We copy the above from the *Scotsman*, at whose office the relics are now to be seen. It may not be generally known, that De Foe, according to a tradition among our fellow-townsmen, wrote his immortal *Robinson Crusoe* in Gateshead, in *Hillgate*—a street (if we may call it one) rivalling any of the celebrated "closes" of Auld Reekie.—Ed. G. O.]

Gateshead Union.—The following are the attendance of Guardians at the meetings of the Gateshead Union during the past year:—

GATESHEAD.		HEWORTH.	
Joseph Robson	21	John Allen	7
Joshua Watson	21	George Murray	6
John Freeman	21	W. C. Alder	4
John Potts	15	Robert Wylam	3
James Hymers	13	Thomas Coulthard	2
William Kenmir.....	11	Thomas Bramwell	2
W. H. Brockett	8	WINLATON.	
Nicholas Andrews.....	6	Henry Sanderson	20
William Joyce	5	Joseph Cowen.....	18
Samuel Hillaby.....	4	Joseph Grey	11
CHOPWELL.		George Bullerwell.....	8
Thomas Embleton	1	William Cochrane Carr	2
WHICKHAM.		RYTON.	
Thomas Burnip.....	15	Robert Dodd	9
Edward Robson.....	7	STELLA.	
Stephen Hall	5	Joseph Laycock.....	5
Cuthbert Hall.....	5	RYTON WOODSIDE.	
William Tweddell.....	0	John March	13

Decimal System of Moneys.—In a recent number we discussed at some length the conversion of our present heterogeneous moneys to a uniform decimal notation, and the best mode of effecting it. A correspondent of the *Gateshead Observer* proposes to effect it by "merely changing the name of one coin now in use, and altering the subdivisions of another," as follows:—1st. Make the half-sovereign the highest coin in the notation table, calling it, for instance, *a royal*. 2nd. The present shilling will then, of course, serve for the tenth part of a royal. 3rd. Subdivide the shilling, by a new copper coinage, into ten parts instead of twelve, which parts may be still called pennies. And, 4th. Subdivide the new penny further into ten parts, to be called *tenths*. This plan is in principle identical with that which we cursorily sketched ourselves, except that in the detail it dispenses with any intermediate coin between the shilling and the new penny, which would be very inconvenient. This, however, the correspondent of the *Gateshead Observer* need not have done; for the present sixpenny piece would represent 5 *cents*, or new pennies, by his plan; just as it would two cents, 5 *mils* (or thousandths), by ours. In this particular his plan would be the more simple; but not sufficiently so, perhaps, to compensate for changing the old base of the sovereign for the half sovereign. He also gains a minimum coin of a denomination twice as low as he would by adopting the sovereign as the base; which, to the poorer classes, who purchase many of their necessaries in minute quantities, would certainly be an advantage. We are glad to see the subject thus pressed by capable persons on public attention, for the only way to render the change easy and useful is in every part of the country to render it intelligible.—*London Journal of Commerce.*

The Fallen Circulation of the "Journal."—Our neighbour of the *Newcastle Journal*, in addressing his "readers and correspondents" on the subject of the last "Stamp Return," confesses (though with an attempt at a sneer) that the document in question "exhibits its customary accuracy." In this declaration of our contemporary we entirely concur. We believe that the Stamp Office authorities are incapable of fraud, and guiltless of rendering a false account of their receipts. At any rate, we are sure that something more trustworthy than the asseverations of detected mendacity will be necessary to affix such a stigma upon Her Majesty's Commis-

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sioners—whose Returns, so far as the *Observer* is concerned, we have always found to be strictly correct. When the purchases of stamps by the "*Journal*" were large—when it was convenient for our contemporary to avail himself of the "customary accuracy" of the Stamp Return—extracts from that document were ostentatiously referred to, by our *veracious* neighbour, as the best supporters of his claim to the patronage of the political and advertising world. Week after week, at that period, whilst making comparisons with his contemporaries, the Stamp Return was quoted as evidence of circulation. But now, how altered is the conduct of our Tory neighbour, although he assures us that the "Stamp Return" on which he formerly founded his pretensions is as accurate as ever—that the same "accuracy" with which it declared, in 1838, that the amount of stamps purchased by him averaged nearly three thousand per week, unveils the mortifying fact that his purchases in 1840 were reduced below the miserable average of a thousand! The stamps issued to the *Journal* in 1838 amounted to 155,000: in 1840 they numbered only 49,000—8,000 of which, the Editor now obligingly admits, consisted of sheets for the "enlarged" *Journal*, and, therefore, could not be "consumed" until 1841. In appealing to the "Stamp Return" as evidence of our superiority in circulation over our Tory contemporary, we are merely pursuing a precedent which he himself has set—we are only exhibiting a confirmation of our statement from the same authority to whose "customary accuracy" our neighbour, *when it suited his purpose*, so frequently appealed. It can be no fault of ours, if the exposure of the *Journal* should be prejudicial to the *proprietor;* for we are but following his own footsteps—fighting him with the species of weapon selected by himself—assailing him only according to the rules of that code of honour, (or of "customary accuracy," if he will,) in which he has so frequently exhibited his proficiency. As the *Journal* was amongst the earliest and loudest proclaimers of the utility and accuracy of the Stamp Returns, as tests of circulation and evidences of superiority, and, consequently, in effect, one of the warmest eulogists of the "Stamps and Taxes," the functionaries connected with that department must be gratified and amused beyond measure, *now*, by the sneer of the Tory sufferer in his "decline and fall." Our veracious neighbour, moreover, forgets, that his present pretensions to a large "consumption" of stamps places him in an awkward dilemma—in collision, in short, either with his "readers and correspondents" of past years, or with the collectors of Her Majesty's revenue. If the Stamp Returns, when his purchases of stamps were large, correctly stated (as he *then* said they did) the extent of his "consumption"—and if his "consumption," during the "period indicated" in the last Stamp Return, (as he *now* says it did,) exceeded 70,000—he must not be surprised by a civil request from Her Majesty, or her servants, to explain the means by which he became possessed of so large an extent of stamps, for which the duty does not appear to have been paid. We do not believe the proprietor of the *Journal* guilty of any defalcation, because we believe the Stamp Returns have always "accurately" stated the extent of his purchases—we implicitly credited his statements when they agreed with the "Stamp Return," and we place an equal degree of confidence in that document now when (although most humiliating to the Alnwick and Wolsington worthies by whom the *Journal* was established) it bears testimony to the correctness of public taste, and to the purity of public opinion, by exhibiting the downfal of a disseminator of political immorality, and the prosperity of the less pretending, but more reputable engine by which that downfal has been wrought.

THE DECIMAL SYSTEM OF MONEY.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

I BEG leave to address you once more on the subject of decimal money, for the purpose of making a few observations upon the remarks which have been made, in various quarters, since the development of my plan appeared in your paper.

I will first observe, that the *Journal of Commerce* is under a mistake in supposing that I overlooked the convenience of retaining the sixpence as an intermediate coin between the shilling and the penny; for I distinctly stated, that my proposition would not require any alteration in either the gold or silver coinage; and I considered the utility of that coin, being half a shilling, of the value of five decimal pence, so very obvious as not to require an observation. I did not point out the utility of a halfpenny coin, for the same reason.

The same periodical expresses an apprehension, that an alteration of the notation of money, from a twenty shilling piece, as the highest numerative coin, to a reduced one of ten shillings, presents undefined difficulties. I do not participate with it in any such apprehension, as there is no necessity for that alteration being made, excepting by those who choose to adopt a perfectly decimal system, in place of one of a partially decimal character, (which it would be, supposing the decimal subdivision of a shilling is adopted, if they do not also adopt a numerative coin of ten shillings, under whatever name may be given to it.) The practice of the French, who use the franc as their highest numerative coin, even in the large sums voted in their Parliament, and apparently without inconvenience, is evidence of the groundlessness of such an apprehension, the numerative coin that I have proposed being of more than ten times the value. The choice is between an alteration of the whole coinage, from the sovereign downwards, to obtain a decimal system of money; or on alteration from the shilling downwards only, to abtain the same end. It is quite obvious which would occasion the least change in mercantile practice.

Let it further be observed, that the mere act of altering the copper coinage, as I propose, would at once put the country in possession OF ALL THE ELEMENTS OF A DECIMAL SYSTEM, be it adopted when and by whom it may. The present time seems peculiarly propitious for making such an alteration in the coinage, for we are evidently on the eve of an extensive alteration in the rates of importation and other duties upon merchandize. It would therefore not only save much after-trouble, but assist materially in establishing the new system, if the alteration be made before any new rates of duty are imposed—and that these new rates be enacted in accordance with the decimal system.

One further objection only will I notice, namely, that the alteration will cause much confusion, and that we get on very well as we are. This is an argument, if it deserves the name of one, which would have been as good 100 years ago as now, and will be equally good 100 years hence. But even that objection I would provide a remedy for, by the following very simple plan, namely, that, on the copper coins prepared for the first issue upon the decimal system, there should be, on one side, in place of a device (such as the figure of Britannia), a table of equivalents, showing the relative value of the old to the new coin; and then every man who had a penny in his pocket, would be in possession of a *guide*, to prevent the confusion anticipated. Thus, let the following words be in a circle round the edge of the coin:—"Decimal Penny, One Tenth Part of a Shilling." And in the centre, where I think there would be room enough, the following table:—

NEW.		OLD.		NEW.		OLD.	
10	equal to	12		5	equal to	6	
9	equal to	10¾	1-5	4	equal to	4¾	1-5
8	equal to	9½	2-5	3	equal to	3½	2-5
7	equal to	8¼	3-5	2	equal to	2¼	3-5
6	equal to	7	4-5	1	equal to	1	4-5

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

ELECTION OF ASSESSORS FOR REVISING THE BURGESS LISTS WITH THE MAYOR.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Burgesses of the said borough will assemble at the Town-hall, in Oakwellgate, in the said borough, on Monday, the first day of March next, and elect from the persons qualified to be Councillors, TWO ASSESSORS for the whole borough, to revise the Burgess Lists with the Mayor, and that the voting will commence at nine o'clock in the morning, and will finally close at four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day; but the presiding officer is authorized to close the poll at any time be-

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fore four o'clock, if one hour shall have elapsed during which no vote shall have been tendered for any candidate.

No burgess can vote for more than one person to be an assessor, and each burgess must deliver in a voting paper, containing the christian name and surname of the person for whom he votes, with his place of abode and description; such paper being previously signed with the name of the burgess voting, and with the name of the street, lane, or other place, in which the property for which he appears to be rated on the burgess roll is situate.

The two persons to be elected assessors must be upon the burgess roll, and each must have the qualification of a councillor.

No burgess is eligible to be elected an assessor who shall be of the Council, or the Town Clerk, or the Treasurer of the Borough. WILLIAM KELL,

Townhall, February 19th, 1841. Town Clerk.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS.

Notice is hereby given, that the burgesses of the said borough will assemble at the Townhall, in Oakwellgate, in the said borough, on Monday, the first day of March next, and elect from the persons qualified to be Councillors, TWO AUDITORS for the whole borough; and that the voting will commence at nine o'clock in the morning, and will finally close at four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day; but the presiding officer is authorized to close the poll at any time before four o'clock, if one hour shall have elapsed during which no vote shall have been tendered for any candidate.

No burgess can vote for more than one auditor; and each burgess is entitled to vote by delivering in a voting paper, containing the christian name and surname of the person for whom he votes, with his place of abode and description; such paper being previously signed with the name of the burgess voting, and with the name of the street, lane, or other place, in which the property for which he appears to be rated on the burgess roll is situate.

Though a burgess may be rated in respect of distinct properties in two or more wards, he will only be entitled to ONE VOTE.

No burgess is eligible to be elected an auditor, who shall be of the Council, or the Town Clerk, or the Treasurer of the Borough. WILLIAM KELL,

Gateshead, February 19th, 1841. Town Clerk.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

ELECTION OF WARD ASSESSORS.

Notice is hereby given, that the burgesses inrolled in the several wards within the said borough, will, on the first day of March next, openly assemble in their respective wards, and elect from the persons qualified to be Councillors, TWO ASSESSORS for each ward.

The election in each ward will be held before the Aldermen and present Assessors thereof, at the places undermentioned, which have been appointed for that purpose; and each election will commence at nine of the clock in the morning, and will finally close at four of the clock in the afternoon of the said day; but the presiding officer is authorized to close the poll at any time before four o'clock, if one hour shall have elapsed during which no vote shall have been tendered for any candidate.

FOR THE EAST WARD.—The Justice Room, of the Townhall, in Oakwellgate.

FOR THE WEST WARD.—A room in the house, No. 162, High-street, being the Committee Room of the Gateshead Dispensary.

FOR THE SOUTH WARD.—The National School Room, in Kell's-lane.

No burgess can vote for more than one assessor for his ward; and each burgess is entitled to vote by delivering to the presiding officers a voting paper, containing the christian name and surname of the person for whom he votes, with his place of abode and description; such paper being previously signed with the name of the burgess voting, and with the name of the street, lane, or other place, in which the property for which he appears to be rated on the burgess roll, is situate.

Where a burgess is rated in respect of distinct properties in two or more wards, he will be entitled to vote in such one of the said wards as he shall select, but not in more than one.

No burgess is eligible to be elected an assessor, who shall be on the Council, or the Town Clerk, or the Treasurer of the Borough. WILLIAM KELL,

Gateshead, Feb. 19, 1841. Town Clerk.

AT a MEETING of MEMBERS of the HOUSE of COMMONS, held at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, London, on the 20th of February, 1841, (JOSEPH HUME, Esq., M.P., in the chair,) the following Resolutions were agreed to:—

Moved by the Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M.P.
Seconded by Peter Ainsworth, Esq., M.P.,

That it is the opinion of this meeting, consisting of Members representing many of the most important commercial and manufacturing constituencies of the United Kingdom, that the present restrictions and prohibitions in the commercial code of the British empire and its dependencies, and the operation of the existing tariff of import duties, present the most serious obstacles to the extension of the trade of this country.

Moved by James Morrison, Esq., M.P.,
Seconded by Archibald Hastie, Esq., M.P.,

That the Report of the Committee of last Session on Import Duties, has strengthened the opinions previously entertained, with reference to the evils of the present restrictive system; and has shown that, besides the taxes paid by the people for revenue purposes, they are charged an enhanced price upon many necessary articles of consumption, beyond that paid by the people of foreign countries; and that encouragement is thereby given to the establishment of rival manufacturing interests abroad.

Moved by Edward Strutt, Esq., M.P.,
Seconded by Robert Hutton, Esq., M.P.,

That notwithstanding the addition of a considerable percentage to the existing taxes, in the course of the last session, the amount of revenue has decreased, whilst, during the same period, there has been a great increase in the public expenditure: that to meet this deficiency, one of the following alternatives becomes necessary, either to raise money by way of Loan, or by new taxes, or to increase the revenue by a revision of the import duties—by the former course, trade will be impeded, and the burdens of the people augmented—by the latter, commerce will be extended, and the comforts of the people increased:—Therefore it is the decided opinion of this meeting, that the financial difficulties of this country, and the wants of the consumer, will best be met by a general revision and reduction of the duties on imports.

Moved by Benjamin Hawes, Jun., Esq., M.P.,
Seconded by Thomas Thorneley, Esq., M.P.,

That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the Chairman, be transmitted to Viscount Melbourne.

Moved by Henry Warburton, Esq., M.P.,
Seconded by Robert Steuart, Esq., M.P.,

That a Committee be appointed, to superintend the printing and circulation of these resolutions; to invite the co-operation of Members of Parliament of all parties; to call meetings, to report from time to time; and, generally, to further the objects of this meeting.

Moved by the Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M.P.,
Seconded by William Ewart, Esq., M.P.,

That the Committee consist of the following Members, with power to add to their number:—Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., Mark Phillips, Esq., M.P., Edward Strutt, Esq., M.D., Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., Thomas Thorneley, Esq., M.P., and Benjamin Hawes, Jun., Esq., M.P.

JOSEPH HUME, Chairman.

GATESHEAD HIGHWAY CESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Mr. L*w F**l "basely states" what is not correct. He states, that I said, in my letter, that when the roads were first formed, about 20 years ago, they were "quite perfect." There is nothing in my letter from which he can construe any such meaning. There are other parts which he has mis-stated, but which are not worth taking notice of.

2. In answer to the charge of "misappropriation," he states there never was any misappropriation, with the exception of

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one collector, who resided at Wrekenton. I merely said the funds had been misappropriated by them repairing the roads of one part of the parish more than those of another. But this doughty knight of the L•w F••l comes forward with the evident intention of "slaying me at one blow;" and in his hurry to complete my destruction, actually knocks himself over. He admits that the funds have been misappropriated to the amount of £50 or £60, this proving all I said, and more. He then takes up the colums of your paper with some insignificant doggrel, not at all applicable to the subject.

3. Mr. L•w F••l has laboured to prove, that the cost of the seats does not come upon the parish. Yet how edifyingly silent he is as to the cost of the road and footpath, which, compared with that of the seats, would be as a mountain to a molehill.

4. Mr. L•w F••l states, that I should have applied to the Foreman, who is expected to look after these things—I would ask him why the "respectable tradesmen" who employ and pay the Foreman, do not see that he does his duty. Are the ratepayers to follow him?

But the greatest proof that I was right in asserting the neglected situation of our roads, is, that on the Monday after the publication of your paper, the person appointed to see the roads cleaned was there; and since that, the road has been partially cleansed.

In conclusion, I am sorry that Mr. L•w F••l has so committed himself, and beg to recommend to *him* the adoption of that golden maxim of doing unto others as he would wish to be done by—the breach of which is all that I complain of.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 1st, 1841. W••k••••N.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

THE Persons hereinafter named and described were on the 1st day of March instant, duly elected Assessors of the several Wards of the said Borough hereinafter mentioned:—

FOR THE EAST WARD.

Name. Place of Abode. Description.

JOHN NIXON, High-street, Thread Manufacturer.
WILLIAM JOYCE, High-street, Nurseryman.

FOR THE WEST WARD.

RALPH WAKE, Windmill Hills, Gentleman.
NICHOLAS ANDREWS, Windmill Hills, Gentleman.

FOR THE SOUTH WARD.

THOMAS PATTERSON, Sheriff Hill, Earthenware Manufacturer.
JOHN EDWARDS, Sheriff Hill, Tailor.

ASSESSORS TO REVISE THE BURGESS LISTS WITH THE MAYOR.

THOMAS SWINBURNE, of West-street, Solicitor, and WILLIAM LOCKEY HARLE, of West-street, Solicitor, were on the same day duly elected Assessors to revise the Burgess Lists with the Mayor.

AUDITORS.

CHARLES FREDERICK SPRINGMANN, of Union-row, Schoolmaster, and JOHN LISTER, junior, of Mulgrave-terrace, Builder, were on he same day elected Auditors for the said Borough.

WILLIAM KELL, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, March 2, 1841.

The committee of the St. Edmund's chapel-school, in this borough, have published a statement of its finances, by which its expenditure appears to have exceeded its income for the past year—the balance at the close of the year being above £9 on the wrong side—whereas, at the commencement, there was upwards of £10 in hand. The report is as follows:—"In laying before the public the usual account at the close of the year, the committee are happy to announce a considerable increase in the number of subscribers. From the statement [of accounts], it will appear that the regular receipts for the past year have still fallen somewhat short of the necessary expenditure. The committee would therefore strongly urge on the friends of an enlightened and Christian education, the duty of an increased support to this admirable institution."

A meeting of the governors of the Victoria Blind Asylum, was held yesterday, in the council-chamber, Newcastle, (Joseph Grote, Esq., in the chair). A report from the committee was read, from which it appeared that arrangements had been made for purchasing the house and premises in Northumberland-street, lately occupied by Mr. Benjamin Thompson, for the sum of £2,300. The committee requested the general meeting to confirm the contract. Mr. T. M. Greenhow moved, and Mr. W. L. Harle seconded, the adoption of the report; which motion was unanimously adopted. From a statement made by the chairman, the meeting learned that the institution was now in possession of £800, and the remaining £1,500 would be allowed to remain on mortgage. It was stated that another meeting would be called shortly, to name trustees, and approve a trust-deed.—MARCH 6.

The shareholders of the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms, at their meeting on Tuesday last, definitively adopted a plan of the building prepared by Mr. Oliver, and a trust deed as drawn by Mr. Kell—and appointed Messrs. Thomas Wilson, James Smith, W. H. Brockett, Thomas Sowerby, John Phillips, the Rector of Gateshead Fell, and Daniel Robson, Trustees of the Building; and Messrs. Wilson, Ferguson, Smith, Sowerby, and Brockett, as the Committee of Management.—MARCH 6.

NEWCASTLE.

THE calendar was of unprecedented length, comprising no less than 45 prisoners! We give an analysis:—

CAN READ AND WRITE WELL.

Thomas John Stodhart, aged..	34	George Robson	37
Anna Stodhart	37	Robert Blakey	
John Atkinson Smithson	26	John Fitzhugh	30

CAN READ AND WRITE IMPERFECTLY.

Anthony James	30	John Farren	45
Andrew Brakey	39	Henry Henry	24

CAN READ WELL.

Richard Robinson	22	James Robson	16
Isabella Wilson	17	William Cowley	26
John Smith	15	Matilda Nanson	16
John Penman Chapman	23	Bridget Blenkinsop	25
Isabella Coulson	49		

CAN READ IMPERFECTLY.

James Spears	21	John Kilburn	27
Lancelot Forster	22	Elizabeth J. R. Williamson	19
Henry Goldsmith	20	William Shafto	17
Mary Ann Goldsmith	29	William Wilson	16
John Macgee	42	Robinson Fairley	48
Thomas Rochester	35	Joseph Hutchinson	12
Stephen Finney	14	Jonathan Lee	46
William Duncan Miller	22	Robert Gill	24
George Jobson	40		

CAN NEITHER READ NOR WRITE.

Catherine Smith	21	John Leng	45
Jane Martin	25	James Tokeld	14
Mary Maclachlan	27	Thomas Hutson	16
George Ellis	19	James Duffy	28
John Parker	22		

INSTITUTION FOR TRAINING FEMALE SERVANTS.

THE Subscribers and Friends to the above are respectfully informed, that the CELEBRATION of the ANNIVERSARY is intended to take place at the House, Windmill Hills, on Thursday, April 15th, at 12 o'clock.

A Table will be provided for the SALE of WORK, to assist the Funds. Any Lady desirous of contributing Work or Confectionery, will please to send them, previous to the Day of Sale, to the House, or to any of the Ladies of the Committee.

☞ The Subscriptions will then be received.

TO BUILDERS.

PROPOSALS for the building the GATESHEAD FELL PUBLIC ROOMS, SCHOOL ROOM, AND MASTER'S HOUSE, will be received until Tuesday the 16th March Instant, by Mr. THOMAS OLIVER, Architect, at his Office, 11, Royal Arcade, Newcastle, where the Plans and specification are deposited for reference.

Tenders must be for the entire Building, as the Committee will enter into *one Contract only*; and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender.

☞ A call of five shillings per share has been made, and is payable at the Gateshead Arms Inn, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at seven o'clock.

Gateshead Low Fell, 2nd March, 1841.

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TAXATION TABLES,

SHOWING THAT "PROTECTION" IS THE IMPOVERISHMENT OF THE MANY FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF THE FEW.

Mr. Hamer Stansfeld, in moving the adoption of a free-trade petition at a late meeting of the Leeds town-council, laid before the members a tabular statement, showing—

1. That by following the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Import Duties, and removing those levied for the protection of private interests, there would be a saving effected to the borough of Leeds of upwards of £300,000 a year.

2. That this sum raised on the present population of the borough, estimated at 150,000, would be £2 per individual; and taking the population of the empire in round numbers to be 24,000,000, and the annual general taxation to be £48,000,000, it followed that the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds were taxed just as much to protect private interests, as to maintain the Government, viz., £2 per head annually for state taxation—£2 ditto for the benefit of particular classes.

3. That this protecting duty of £2 per head annually was a weekly tax of 4s. on a family of five persons; and supposing the average weekly earnings of such a family amongst the working classes to be 24s., the deduction would be one-sixth, whilst on the middle and wealthier classes it would fall comparatively easy.

Entering into details, Mr. Stansfeld gave the amount of protecting duty on sundry articles, as estimated by James Deacon Hume, Esq., after an experience of nearly half a century in the Customs and Board of Trade departments, and by John M'Gregor and G. R. Porter, Esquires, who now are and have been for many years in the service of Government. We give the particulars:—

ARISTOCRACY.	
On bread 10s. per head; and the population of the borough being 150,000, it amounts to	£75,000
On butchers' meat and other agricultural produce, barley for beer, butter, cheese, vegetables, &c., 20s. per head	150,000
WEST INDIA INTEREST.	
On sugar, 4d. per lb.; and the average consumption of the empire being 17lb. per head, the amount on a population of 150,000 is	42,50
On coffee, 6d. per lb.; and the average consumption of the empire being only 1lb. per head, amounts on a population of 150,000 to	3,750
CANADIAN TIMBER INTEREST.	
On timber, the differential duty is 5s. for hard wood, and 10s. on pine and fir, from our colonies, as compared with £2 15s. upon timber from foreign countries, being a differential protection of 450 per cent. The consumption in Leeds can only be guessed at; and assuming, on the authority of a first-rate dealer, that it is annually to the amount of £50,000, one-half being Canadian timber on which 10s. duty per load is paid, and the other half Baltic on which 55s. duty per load is paid, the gain to the borough by the alteration would be	11,200
To these items must be added the proportion of the six millions which, according to Mr. M'Gregor, the revenue would gain by a reduction of duties; and as the state taxation is about 48 millions, or £2 per head, and the six millions is one-eighth of that, the proportion for the borough population would be	37,500
Total	£319,950

In a second table, Mr. Stansfeld shows, that manufacturing towns consume *more*, and rural districts *less*, than the average consumption of sugar, coffee, &c., in the empire; consequently, that the manufacturing population are peculiarly burdened by the import duties, and that £300,000 per annum is actually much below the amount of burden borne by the people of Leeds in this species of taxation.

The subscribers of the St. Edmund's Chapel School, in this borough, we understand, are to meet on Monday next, in the vestry of St. Mary's, to receive the answer of the Bishop respecting the trusteeship of the intended new school.

A special general meeting of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce was held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, yesterday, (Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., in the chair,) when a petition to Parliament in favour of a revision of the Import Duties, so as to render them more accordant with the general interests of the country, was carried unanimously, on the motion of Wm. Armstrong, Esq., seconded by John Jobling, Esq. We say unanimously, but it is necessary to inform our readers that there was a dissentient—and he no less a personage than the Chairman, who, in consequence of a notion he entertained that the petition, although couched in general language, was a side-wind attack on the Corn Laws, dissented from it, and refused to sign it—observing, also, that the coal and coasting trades were subjects more suitable for the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle, than the Corn Laws, with which the Chamber had no right to meddle, and which he was determined to uphold. It was (but in vain) explained, that the petition was quite general in its language—that it was proposed and seconded by persons of opposite political opinions—the Chairman was inexorable, and the petition was at last ordered to be signed by the Vice President. We have only one word to say on this matter. We do not blame the Baronet—we blame the Chamber—who ought long ago to have seen the absurdity of placing a mere country gentleman, unconnected and unacquainted with commerce, in a situation which a practical, experienced, and intelligent merchant alone is qualified to fill.—Mar. 13.

A meeting of ratepayers (W. Hymers, Esq., Mayor, in the chair,) was held in St. Mary's vestry, in this parish, on Wednesday last; when it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. W. L. Harle, seconded by Mr. W. Kenmir, that it was desirable to avoid the heavy expenses of a contested election of Guardians. The meeting then selected the following gentlemen, to be recommended to the parish for unanimous election:—The Rector, and Messrs. James Hymers, William Kenmir, Joseph Robson, Joshua Greene, William Joyce, W. H. Brockett, David Haggie, John Potts, and George Watson. The Mayor was nominated, but was afterwards withdrawn, at his own request, on the ground that he had not time to discharge the duties of the office. Messrs. Kenmir, Revely, and Nixon, were appointed a committee to carry the resolutions into effect. During the meeting, Mr. Kenmir threw out an excellent suggestion, viz., that the Commissioners should be memorialized to reduce the qualification for the office of Guardian from £25 to £15, the former rate depriving the public of the services of many highly suitable persons. After discussion, it was understood that a memorial, as suggested by Mr. Kenmir, should be moved at the parish-meeting shortly to be held for the election of surveyors, &c.—Mar. 13.

The Mayors of Newcastle and Gateshead have been respectfully requested, by Mr. David Salomons, one of the wealthiest members of the Jewish persuasion, to solicit the co-operation of their respective Councils in endeavouring to remove the civil disabilities of the Jews. We trust both Councils will petition in favour of their Jewish fellow-countrymen. Mr. Salomons has served the office of High Sheriff of Kent—he is a Magistrate of the counties of Kent and Surrey—and he has been Sheriff of London; although, to enable him to accept the latter office, a special Act of Parliament was passed. The conduct of the Jews has long been such as to entitle them to be trusted with civil authority; and we hope another session will not be allowed to pass over without doing an act of justice to so important a portion of the British people. The Bill to enable Jews to accept corporate offices, passed its second reading in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, by an overwhelming majority.—Mar. 13.

GATESHEAD UNION.—MEDICAL CONTRACTS.

THE BOARD OF GUARDIANS of the Gateshead Union, will, at their MEETING, to be held on Tuesday, the 23d day of March, receive Proposals for SURGICAL AND MEDICAL ATTENDANCE, (in the full medical acceptation of the term,) upon all sick paupers resident within the limits of the five medical districts of the Union, for one year, from the 25th day of March inst., viz.:—

1. The Parish of Gateshead, including the Workhouse.
2. The Chapelry of Heworth, including the Workhouse.
3. The Parish of Whickham.
4. The Parish of Winlaton.
5. The Parish of Ryton.

Sealed Tenders, addressed to the Clerk, will be received at the Gateshead Union Office, until 11 o'clock on Tuesday, the 23d day of March, where full particulars of the duties required, and the conditions of the contracts, may be obtained.

WILLIAM ROWNTREE,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Gateshead Union Office, March 11, 1841.

GATESHEAD UNION.—CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS, CLOTHING, CLOTHING MATERIALS, &c.—The Board of Guardians of this Union hereby give notice, that at their Meeting to be held in the Board Room, High-street, Gateshead, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of

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March, 1841, they will receive tenders for supplying the Union with the following articles, to be delivered at the Gateshead and Heworth Workhouses, for the next six months, commencing on Friday, 26th of March, 1841, viz:—

PROVISIONS, &c.

Bread made of the best Seconds Flour, in loaves or buns, as may be required, at per 4 lb.
Bread made of Thirds Flour, or Maslin, sweet and sound, at per 4lb. loaf.
Best Fine Flour, per sack of 20 stones.
Best Scotch Oatmeal, ditto
SKIMMED MILK at per gallon.
Raw Sugar, per cwt.
Soap, per ditto
Soda, per ditto
Salt, per ditto
Candles, Dips, per doz. lb.
Good Congou Tea, per lb.
Roasted Coffee, per ditto
Black Pepper, per lb.
Treacle, per stone
Butcher Meat.—To consist of Rounds and Flanks of best Ox or Heifer Beef, Houghs full cut, and Sloats without the shank, and best Wether Mutton, in legs and loins, per st. The Weekly demand about 12 stones
Coals unscreened, per chaldron
Ditto ⅔ screaned per ditto.

CLOTHING.

MEN, YOUTHS, AND BOYS.

Striped Shirts
Moleskin Jackets
Waistcoats lined with cotton, and Trowsers unlined
Blue Kersey Jackets, Waistcoats and Trowsers
Kersey drawers, yarn Stockings
Hats, Boys' Caps.

WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Blue Flannel Petticoats
Blue Harn Aprons
Unbleached ditto
Cotton Handkerchiefs
Straw Bonnets, Linen Caps
Shoes.

CLOTHING MATERIALS.

Blue Kersey
Moleskin
Bed Ticking
Striped Cotton
Checked ditto, for Aprons
Blue Harn
Blankets, per pair
Striped and Brown Jersey
White and Blue Flannel
Strong White Linen
Grey Sheeting
White, Grey, and Black Calico
Blue Print
Rugs, Double Diaper
Coloured Counterpanes
Black & Coloured Yarn, per lb.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Clerk, at the Gateshead Union Office, will be received until one o'clock on Thursday, the 23rd day of March, 1841.

The groceries to be tendered by samples; the clothing materials by pattern, with prices ticketed; and the ready-made clothing, and other articles of wear, according to patterns of each, deposited for inspection at the Gateshead Workhouse.

Each party whose tender may be accepted must be prepared (if required) to give security for the due fulfilment of the contract. By order of the Board of Guardians,

Gateshead Union Office, March 11, 1841. WM. ROWNTREE, Clerk to the Union.

Mr. Pattison, Registrar of Births and Deaths in Gateshead, has received, within the last few days, from the "Commissioners for the Census," a table of "allowances for enumerators." Each parish is already divided into enumeration districts, preparatory to the census of July next; and the payment of an enumerator will be from 10s. upwards, according to the amount of duty to be performed. The arrangements that have been made, to render the next census accurate and valuable, surpass those of any previous enumeration of the people; but we agree with some of our contemporaries in regretting that the state of education (to the extent, at least, of the ability to read and write,) does not enter into the plan laid down by the legislature.—MAR. 20.

A serious accident happened yesterday forenoon, at Team colliery, near Ravensworth, by the falling of a large stone from the roof of the mine, upon two fine lads, viz., Richard Kelly and John Richardson. The former, who belonged Gateshead Fell, was killed on the spot: the latter, who belonged Lamesley, had his leg broken, and was otherwise much injured.—MAR. 20.

Mrs. Margaret Richardson, aged 102 years, died at Silver Hill, Ravensworth, Gateshead, on Wednesday last. She had lived in one house for the last 70 years, and could read without spectacles within a week of her death.—MAR. 20.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION.

WE copy the following details from a Return lately made to the House of Commons:—

ARTICLES.	Quantities Imported. Years ended Jan. 5 1840.	Quantities Imported. Years ended Jan. 5 1841.	Gross Duty Recd. Years ended Jan. 5, 1840.	Gross Duty Recd. Years ended Jan. 5, 1841.
Barilla and alkali ..... *cwt*	59,697	63,770	£5,857	£5,880
Bark for tanners, &c. .... *cwt.*	689,330	646,202	22,349	20,955
Butter ..... *cwt.*	213,504	252,906	213,400	257,695
Cheese ..... *cwt.*	210,436	227,988	106,214	119,631
Coffee ..... *lb.*	41,003,316	69,534,071	779,853	922,862
Cocoa ..... *lb.*	1,654,666	3,499,699	13,418	17,526
Wheat ..... *grs.*	2,634,557	1,999,519	631,698	725,045
Barley ..... *grs.*	579,405	630,557	77,915	118,996
Oats ..... *grs.*	670,117	539,137	276,996	84,281
Rye ..... *grs.*	153,073	3,351	12,252	1,116
Peas ..... *grs.*	140,012	158,941	37,905	35,056
Beans ..... *grs.*	109,810	130,923	25,952	22,064
Eggs ..... *number*	95,291,844	96,411,420	33,100	34,451
Flax and tow ..... *cwt.*	1,223,701	1,256,051	5,226	5,526
Hemp (undressed) ..... *cwt.*	995,693	684,921	3,912	3,212
Hides (untanned) ..... *cwt.*	418,391	353,434	45,995	40,307
Opium ..... *lb.*	196,246	77,872	2,084	2,457
Clover ..... *cwt.*	114,929	135,612	93,708	141,494
Flaxseed and linseed .. *bushels*	4,151,047	3,558,731	24,304	21,316
Rape ..... *bushels*	983,864	661,173	5,703	4,500
Goatskins (undressed) *number*	502,157	400,832	798	807
Kidskins (ditto) ..... *number*	162,438	140,482	27	24
Ditto (dressed) ..... *number*	531,031	572,267	2,655	2,893
Lambskins (undressed) *number*	2,093,947	1,775,267	353	273
Ditto (dressed) ..... *number*	15,400	6,194	78	36
Rum (incl. over proof) .. *galls.*	5,477,669	4,310,101	1,273,765	1,154,544
Brandy (ditto) ..... *galls.*	2,271,172	3,389,861	1,309,391	1,259,769
Geneva (ditto) ..... *galls.*	668,820	803,201	20,891	18,162
Sugar ..... *cwt.*	4,678,219	4,031,913	4,628,355	4,465,020
Tallow ..... *cwt.*	1,330,528	1,184,979	182,343	183,803
Tar ..... *lasts and brls.*	12,537	14,121	9,158	10,707
Tea ..... *lb.*	38,158,009	27,462,893	3,660,053	3,473,951
Battens and batten ends .... *c.*	20,118	19,465	177,163	173,509
Deals and deal ends, from British America ..... *c.*	49,396	45,422	70,740	90,651
Ditto, from other parts .... *c.*	31,251	28,028	567,286	552,655
Staves ..... *c*	81,020	97,050	54,932	58,164
Timber (8 in. square and upwards), from B.A. .... *loads*	562,987	646,722	275,322	344,047
Ditto, from other parts .. *loads*	162,706	171,577	431,297	474,067
Tobacco (unmanufactured) *lb.*	35,605,253	35,637,826	3,431,908	3,525,956
Ditto (manufactured), and snuff ..... *lb.*	1,622,326	1,347,636	88,261	90,105
Turpentine (common) .... *cwt.*	321,211	347,518	83,218	84,846
Cape Wine ..... *galls.*	723,748	460,065	73,598	64,778
French ditto ..... *galls.*	508,487	561,920	109,763	102,332
Other ditto ..... *galls.*	8,676,821	8,297,665	1,732,003	1,705,000

DECLARED VALUE OF EXPORTS.

ARTICLES.	Year ended Jan. 5, 1840.	Year ended Jan. 5, 1841.
Coals and culm, ...	£542,609	£577,042
Earthenware, ...	771,173	574,600
Glass, ...	371,208	416,526
Lead, ...	197,592	237,197
Salt, ...	218,907	213,601
Total of the above and other British produce and manufactures exported, ...	45,307,469	43,924,958

VESSELS EMPLOYED.

FOREIGN TRADE.	Year ending Jan. 5, 1840. Ships.	Year ending Jan. 5, 1840. Tonnage.	Year ending Jan. 5, 1841. Ships.	Year ending Jan. 5, 1841. Tonnage.
Entered inwards, ...	23,114	3,957,468	22,725	4,105,207
Cleared outwards, ...	18,424	3,085,752	19,710	3,392,626
COASTING TRADE.				
Entered inwards:—				
Employed between Great Britain and Ireland, ...	9,221	1,176,893	9,423	1,150,396
Other coasting vessels, ...	121,033	9,433,511	123,876	9,615,661
Total, ...	130,254	10,610,404	133,299	10,766,056
Cleared outwards:—				
Employed between Great Britain and Ireland, ...	17,335	1,708,243	17,369	1,677,264
Other coasting vessels, ...	125,560	9,557,830	128,758	9,740,727
Total, ...	142,895	11,266,073	146,127	11,417,991

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GATESHEAD PUBLIC ROOMS.

AT a MEETING of the Subscribers, and others friendly to the Erection of a suitable Building for Public Purposes in this Borough, convened by the Mayor, and held in the Council Room, Oakwellgate, on Monday, the 8th of March, 1841, at seven o'clock in the evening, (WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor, in the Chair,) it was unanimously resolved:—

On the motion of William Henry Brockett, Esq.,
Seconded by James Pollock, Esq.,

1. That it is extremely desirable that a commodious building should be erected, by subscription, for the accommodation of the several official bodies and public institutions in this borough; that a Committee be now chosen for carrying this desirable object into effect; and that the shares be £5 each.

On the motion of William Wylam, Esq.,
Seconded by John George Abbot, Esq.,

2. That the Committee consist of twelve subscribers.

The Committee was then balloted for, and the following gentlemen were elected, viz:—

The Mayor	William Lockey Harle, Esq.
Mr. Alderman Pollock	F. Glenton, Esq.
Mr. Alderman Brockett	Joshua Greene, jun., Esq.
John George Abbot, Esq.	Thomas Proctor, Esq.
Francis Bennett, Esq.	W. E. Brockett, Esq.
Thomas Swinburne, Esq.	Joseph A. Hymers, Esq.

On the motion of Mr. William Wylam,
Seconded by Mr. Thomas Cummins,

3. That the Town Clerk be requested to act as Secretary.

On the motion of W. L. Harle, Esq.,
Seconded by James Pollock, Esq.,

4. That William Wylam, Esq., be requested to act as Treasurer; and that the Secretary and Treasurer be *ex-officio* members of the Committee.

On the motion of John George Abbot, Esq.,
Seconded by R. Vernon, Esq.,

5. That the Committee call a General Meeting of the Subscribers, as soon as 400 shares are subscribed for.

On the motion of R. Vernon, Esq.,
Seconded by Joshua Greene, jun., Esq.,

6. That these resolutions be advertised three times in the *Gateshead Observer*.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor.

The thanks of the meeting were then given to the Chairman, for his conduct in the chair.

Gateshead, March 8, 1841.

The following gentlemen have already subscribed for the number of shares respectively placed opposite to their names:—

The Mayor of Gateshead..	10	Mr. Stephen Forster	5
William Hutt, Esq., M.P...	10	Mr. John Colman	5
Alderman Pollock.....	10	Mr. Thomas Cummins....	5
Alderman Brockett	10	Mr. Joshua Greene, jun. ..	4
Alderman Barras	10	Mr. Joseph Abbot Hymers	4
Alderman Wilson	6	Mr. John Boyd	4
Mr. George Hawks	10	Mr. W. G. Greene.....	4
Mr. William Kell	10	Mr. Joseph Robson	4
Mr. Thomas Swinburne....	10	Mr. Daniel Robson	4
Mr. W. E. Brockett	10	Mr. John Ormston	4
Mr. J. G. Abbot.....	10	Mr. Francis Bennett.....	4
Mr. F. Glenton	10	Mr. Forster Walker	4
Mr. Ralph Wylam.....	6	Mr. R. Robson, Saltwell ..	4
Mr John Fairbairn	4	Mr. John Sowerby.....	4
Mr. James Hymers	4	Mr. G. S. Dixon.....	4
Mr. John Potts	4	Mr. N. Ormston.....	4
Mr. William Wylam.....	6	Mr. Charles Pearson.....	4
Mr. G. J. Kenmir	6	Mr. Wm. Douglas.....	4
Mr. W. L. Harle	6	Mr. Thomas Proctor.....	3
Dr. Elliott	6	Mr. F. Ions.....	2
Mr. John Greene	5	Mr. William Parkinson ..	2
Mr. Joshua Johnson	5	Mr. Henry Read	2
Mr. A. L. Potter, jun.	5	Mr. R. C. Young	2
Mr. Robert Vernon	5	Mr. James Bone.....	1
Mr. George Sowerby.....	5		

The Brandling Junction Railway Company's receipts for the week ending March 12, 1841, were:—By passengers, £503 7s. 10d.; goods, £82 2s. 7d.; coals, £430 18s. 1d.; lime, £7 0s. 7d.; total, £1,023 9s. 1d.

Lady Ravensworth and the Hon. Miss Liddell paid an unexpected visit to the Victoria Blind Asylum, Newcastle, on Tuesday last, and minutely inspected the whole of the establishment, with which they were highly gratified. Her Ladyship purchased several articles, manufactured by the inmates—ordered a shawl, similar to those lately worked for the Queen—and became an annual subscriber of £5. We gladly record this well-bestowed bounty of Lady Ravensworth, and hope that it will find many imitators.

The Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P., has just given a donation of £10 towards defraying the expenses of the recent repairs of our parish-church. We trust that other gentlemen of the neighbourhood, as well as those inhabitants of the parish who have not yet contributed, will follow this good example of the County Member.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Reading-Rooms Society, being now ready to receive subscriptions, and also donations of money and books, we shall be glad to hear that Mr. Hoggins, the Secretary, is not permitted to enjoy a sinecure. For the convenience of our fellow-townsmen, a book has been placed at the *Observer* office, in which the friends of the institution may enter their names. We invite them to make use of the facility.

A meeting of the subscribers to the St. Edmund's Chapel School, Gateshead, was held on the 15th March, in the vestry-room of St. Mary's church. The Rector was in the chair, and stated, that the recommendation of the last meeting, that the Mayor for the time being should be included amongst the trustees of the intended new school, had been transmitted to the Bishop; and although there had been no formal reply, the Bishop, in a private letter to him (the Rector), had said, that he had no objection to the proposal. There was, however, a legal difficulty—the Mayor for the time being not being able, as such, to be vested with the freehold—he might, however, be included in the committee of management. It was then resolved, that there be seven trustees, and that it should be expressed in the deed that the committee of management should always include the Mayor of the borough, if a subscriber to the school. The following gentlemen were appointed trustees:—The Rector, the Mayor (Wm. Hymers, Esq.), and Messrs. John Greene, Wm. Wylam, G. J. Kenmir, George Hawks, and Charles Bulmer. Mr. Andrew, on behalf of himself and partners in Tyne Main Colliery, inquired if Dissenters were excluded from the school; and being answered to the effect, that, although they were admissible, they would be expected to go to the Established Church on Sundays, Mr. A. said he could not conscientiously support such a school, and therefore withdrew the subscription. Mr. Wylam objected to the new school altogether: he thought it quite unnecessary. The Rector said, as the propriety of the school had been already decided upon, it was not advisable to re-open the question—the Privy Council had promised a sum of money, and he hoped sufficient would be obtained to execute the project. The deed having been approved, the meeting dissolved.

Messrs Kell & Apedaile have presented a donation of £5 to the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	*p* Cout, Joseph	Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	*p* Cummins, T.	*p* Kenmir, Wm.	Rowntree, W.
p Brockett, W. H.	*p* Davis, R.	Lister, John	*p* Sowerby, G.
Hall, Michael	Fairbairn, J.	*p* Potts, John	*p* Swan, Walker
p Pollock, James	Forster, S.	*p* Revely, T.	Wight, John
p Wilson, Thos.			*p* Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked *p* were present.]

THE Council met on the 17th March.—The TOWN CLERK read the minutes of the last meeting, and reported the election of auditors and assessors, and their deputies. He also stated, that the Treasurer's accounts had been audited, and a balance declared to be in his hand, on the Borough Fund, of £53 18s. 2d., and one of £281 4s. 2d. in his favour on the Street Act Account.

Various proceedings of the Footpath and Watch Committees, including references to alterations made or desired in footpaths by the Brandling Railway, and Messrs. Soulsby, Marshall, Glaholm, and Rowntree, and a complaint against the latter gentleman of having interfered with the footpath in front of his property in Oakwellgate improperly, were read and confirmed, on the motion of Mr. DAVIS, seconded by Mr. COUT. The Brandling Railway Company had been recommended to

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lower the footpath in Oakwellgate, to the level of the road now being made by them to the quay. The MAYOR reported that the quay was not yet ready for occupancy; and Mr. WILSON stated, that Mr. Plummer had promised, that the wishes of the Council, respecting the Pothouse watering-place, should be attended to.

The TOWN CLERK read letters from the Town Clerk and Magistrates' Clerk of Sunderland, respecting the fines paid to the Borough Fund there, which appear to arise from convictions under the Ale Licensing Act and the Bye Laws, and from the moieties of fines awarded to the police as informers. It also appears, that the police there are very numerous, and the Magistrates sit daily.

The Town Clerk was instructed to apply to the Clerk of the Peace of the County, for copies of the County Treasurer's Accounts; and Mr. BROCKETT gave notice, that at the next meeting he would move a petition to Parliament, to grant the ratepayers of counties a greater controul over the expenditure of the county-rate than they now possess.

A letter from the Town Clerk of Leeds, recommendatory of measures for the better sewerage and ventilation of towns, was read, and referred to a committee, which was appointed (consisting of Messrs. Brockett, Pollock, Revely, Lister, and Swan,) to watch all Parliamentary Bills connected in any way with the interests of the borough. Mr. BROCKETT also moved, that the Town Clerk obtain copies of all local Acts of Parliament, having reference, directly or remotely, to Gateshead; which was seconded by Mr. WILSON, and carried.

A letter to the Mayor, from D. Salomons, Esq., of London, begging the Council to petition in favour of the Bill for enabling Jews to take the declaration made by Quakers and others, on accepting municipal offices, was read; and the following petition (to both Houses) was moved by Mr. BROCKETT:—

The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Gateshead, in the county of Durham,

Humbly Sheweth,—That a Bill is at present before your Honourable House, intituled, "A Bill for enabling persons professing the Jewish Religion to subscribe the form of declaration contained in the Act of the first and second years of Her present Majesty, for the relief of Quakers, Moravians, and Separatists, elected to municipal offices."

That such an extension of indulgence to the Jews would be creditable to the Legislature, and to the country which it represents.

That your petitioners, therefore, pray your Honourable House to pass the Bill with the least possible delay.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

The petition was seconded by Ald. WILSON—(who hoped the time was not far distant when all civil disabilities on account of religious opinions would be removed)—and was carried unanimously, and ordered to be presented to the Lords by the Duke of Cleveland, and to the Commons by Mr. Hutt—on the motion of Ald. POLLOCK, seconded by Mr. KENMIR.

Mr. COUT called the attention of the Council to the "Dark-entry" between Bottle-bank and Church-street. It was in a filthy state, and the public did not seem to be aware that it was theirs. He moved that a board be put up, describing it as a public passage, and that it be whitewashed. Mr. KENMIR thought, as there were many other dark and dirty lanes in the borough, it would be well to instruct the Footpath Committee to inspect them all, and adopt such measures as might be necessary; which was ultimately agreed to.

Mr. COUT also stated, that accidents had occurred by the steam being let off, in an improper manner, on the railway-bridge. Two men had had each a leg broken; and if a stop were not put to it, other accidents might occur. The Town Clerk was instructed to write to the Railway Company on the subject, and to provide a remedy in the Bye Laws for similar improprieties.

The TOWN CLERK stated, that he had had the Bye Laws ready for some time, but they could not be adopted, as there were not two-thirds of the Council present; and this was the second meeting that this difficulty had happened. Mr. BROCKETT recommended that "the borough-property question" should be brought forward, and then, gentlemen interested would be sure to attend. (A laugh.)

The rules for the regulation of the police were ordered to be printed, on the motion of Mr. WYLAM, seconded by Mr. KENMIR: and the Council dissolved.

THE ARTESIAN WELLS OF GRENELLE.

THE success of the Artesian well, undertaken at the slaughter-house of Grenelle, has excited the attention of the public, and the curiosity of philosophers. In fact, it is both remarkable and picturesque, to see this immense column of hot water spouting from a depth of 1,700 French feet. What is the powerful force which causes this subterranean current to ascend? Whence does this water come, that has been sought for at such a depth? What gives it this temperature of 82 degrees, while the thermometer, placed on the surface of the ground, descends to zero—(of the centigrade)? These are great questions, which, nevertheless, Science can satisfactorily resolve.

At the meeting of the Institute, on the 1st of March last, M. Arago read an account of the Artesian wells, from which we extract this description:—

It was in 1832 that the project of having water from these subterranean sources at Paris, was conceived, on account of the success with which the plan was attended at Saint Denis. But it was erroneous to suppose, that because spouting waters were obtained on the right bank of the Seine, they would also exist, and be obtained spouting, on the left bank. After different places had been fixed on for the operation, it was at last determined to choose the slaughter-house of Grenelle, and to pierce the great bed of chalk, which had not been attacked in the borings practised on the right bank. Different accidents opposed the progress of the works, and threatened their success. At last, on the 27th of February, 1840, M. Mulot, junior, obtained a little sand and clear water, and afterwards troubled water; and concluded that the enterprise was about to succeed. The cylindrical opening was tubed to the depth of 1,830 feet; and this without making the opening very narrow, as it was necessary to insert several tubes, one within the other, like the parts of a spyglass.

The geological consequences of this experiment have completely confirmed, that an increase of temperature takes place as we descend from the level of the soil. At 1670 feet, M. Arago obtained a temperature of nearly 78 degrees; latterly he obtained 81 degrees, or thereabouts; so that he calculates about (a degree of the centigrade) 1.8 degree for every 106 feet.

This fountain yields 4,000,000 litres of water—[a litre is rather more than a quart]—in the twenty-four hours—equal to the half of all the water furnished by the three great hydraulic machines which supply the capital from the Seine. The bottom of the well is below the bottom of the sea, at a great distance from the sides of the [English] channel. The water has been analyzed, and found purer than the water of the Seine.

Now that it is established that these waters come from the layers below the chalk bed, it remains to be discovered in what parts they penetrate the ground, and commence their subterranean course. Geological considerations show, that these immense infiltrations must take place near Champagne; and after having circulated beneath the chalk formations, re-appear with the formations in the west of France, analogous to those where they commenced, and give rise to the Eure, the Orne, the Mayence, &c. Thus the Artesian wells made at Rouen, at the extremity of the chalk basin, have less depth than those at Paris.—*Abridged from L'Echo du Monde Savant.*

WHEREAS a Fiat in Bankruptcy is awarded and issued forth against ROBERT INNES, of the borough of Gateshead, in the county of Durham, Builder, Dealer, and Chapman, and he being declared bankrupt, he is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners in the said Fiat named, or any three of them, on the first day of April, at the Bankrupt's Commission Room, Royal Arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, at one o'clock in the afternoon; and on the twenty-seventh day of April, at the same place, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and make a full discovery and disclosure of his estate and effects, when and where the creditors are to come prepared to prove their debts; and at the first sitting to choose assignees; and at the last sitting the said Bankrupt is required to finish his examination, and the creditors are to assent to or dissent from the allowance of his certificate. All persons indebted to the said bankrupt, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to whom the Commissioners shall appoint, but give notice to MR. EDWARD HALLOWS PLUMPTRE, of No. 4, Lamb Building, Temple, London; or MR. GEO. WM. CRAM, Solicitor, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

12,618 quarters of wheat were imported into Stockton in the year 1840, and the duty paid thereon was £6,397, being nearly 10s. 2d. per quarter.

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The Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society have forwarded the following memorial to Mr. Hutt, M.P., for presentation to Lord Palmerston, on the subject of the Sound Duties—an example which, we trust, will be immediately followed by the several other commercial bodies of this neighbourhood:—

To the Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY,

Sheweth,—That the collection of duties at Elsinore, by the Danish Government, upon vessels proceeding through the Sound, is injurious to British commerce—not only by subjecting shipowners and merchants to heavy as well as arbitrary and vexatious imposts, but by exposing them to the loss and danger inseparable from a detention of their vessels on their passage to and from the Baltic.

That your memorialists have learnt, with much satisfaction, that negotiations have been commenced by Her Majesty's Government with that of Denmark, with a view to an arrangement of the Sound Duties more consonant with the dignity as well as interests of the British nation.

That your memorialists earnestly request your Lordship to press this question to an early settlement, the season for trading with the Baltic being on the eve of commencement, and the probability of even another year's continuance of the present system being contemplated with considerable alarm.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Signed on behalf of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, this 23d day of March, 1841. CHARLES SMITH, Chairman.

The Report of the Northern Asylum for the Blind and the Deaf and Dumb, just printed in the form a pamphlet, contains a statement of accounts, of which we give a condensed abstract:—

Balance in Treasurer's hands, Jan. 1, 1840	£15	15	10
Subscriptions and donations, 1839 and 1840	492	3	0
Received for inmates	88	14	6
For articles manufactured by the blind	114	7	1
Donation-box, church-collections, &c.	44	5	8
	£755	6	1
Provisions, coals, gas, water, rent, wages, furniture, repairs, alterations, &c.	£258	9	2
Salaries, postages, school materials, &c.	203	15	2
Blind adults, for work	135	13	1
Materials for work, &c.	62	14	8
Machinery, tools, &c.	1	12	0
Interest to bankers	1	3	4
	663	7	5
Balance in the Treasurer's hands	£91	18	8

Such is the balance which we bring out.—But, in the Report, there is an entry on the creditor-side of the account, "Subscriptions and donations up to Dec. 31, 1840, unpaid, £90," by which the accountant reduces the balance to £1 18s. 8d. Perhaps, therefore, the subscriptions and donations of 1839 and 1840, entered on the debtor-side as £492 3s., should be taken as £402 3s. If so, it would have been more regular to have entered nothing more than the sum actually received.—The unpaid bills, we learn from the Report, amount to £372 14s. 7d.; but taking into account the outstanding subscriptions and donations, the debts due to the institution for inmates, &c., and the stock, furniture, and machinery, the committee calculate that there is a balance in their favour of £97 4s. 1d.

Lady Ravensworth has become an annual subscriber of £5, (in addition to her ladyship's former donation of £5,) and Michael Callender, Esq., Darlington, has given a donation of £2 2s., to the Northern Asylum for the Blind and the Deaf and Dumb.

The new Vicar of Newcastle (the Rev. Mr. Coxe) arrived in that town on Wednesday last, and was welcomed by a joyful peal from the bells of St. Nicholas.—MARCH 27.

That venerable ruin, Richmond Castle, has for some time been undergoing repairs and restorations, which are now completed. Capt. Hampton, the seneschal, has been guided, from the commencement of the work, by a rare and curious drawing of the castle, made about the reign of Henry the Third, and discovered among the Harleian MSS., which was first copied by Gale, and engraved for his valuable *Registrum Honoris Richmondiensis*. The gateway, which led from the barbican to the inner court, is included in the restorations The inhabitants of the ancient borough, and also strangers, (with a liberality which we heartily wish were more generally practised,) have been freely admitted to the ruins for the last twelve months; and in all that time, we rejoice to hear, not the slightest injury has been committed within the walls. The public (who will continue to enjoy the privilege of admission) may congratulate themselves on the appointment of Capt. Hampton, whose indefatigable exertions, under the guidance of antiquarian knowledge and good taste, have preserved, we trust for years, one of the most interesting and majestic monuments of baronial greatness of which our country can boast, and which commands one of the most beautiful views in the world.

The Guardians of the Gateshead Union, at their meeting on Tuesday last, (Joseph Cowen, Esq., in the chair,) decided the provision contracts as follows:—Mr. Henderson, beef and mutton; Mr. Matchitt, groceries; Mr. Oliver, clothing; and Mr. Brown, flour, &c. Also the medical ones, viz., the Gateshead Dispensary, the medical attendance for Gateshead, at four shillings per case; Mr. McAllum, ditto for Heworth, £20, and £15 after the new workhouse should be opened; Mr. Tindle, ditto for Ryton, £8 8s.; Mr. Tindle, ditto for Winlaton, £10 10s.; and Mr. Stephenson, ditto for Whickham, provided he would accept five shillings per case, instead of the lump sum of £16 16s., at which he had tendered. The sum of £13 10s., as a contribution to the new road on the Flats, past the new workhouse, was ordered; on the understanding that it was to be considered as a donation, and not as an assessment upon any particular rental.—MARCH 27.

The following gentlemen have been elected Guardians for the several parishes comprising the Gateshead Union viz.:—

Gateshead.—W. H. Brockett, Esq., the Rev. John Davies, and Messrs. Joseph Robson, John Freeman, William Kenmir, John Potts, James Hymers, William Joyce, David Haggie, and Peter James Main.

Heworth.—Messrs. Allen, Murray, Armstrong, Tone, Galton, and Laws.

Whickham.—Messrs. Robson, Burnip, Hall, and Mordue.

Winlaton.—Messrs. Cowen, Gray, Sanderson, Nicholson, and Bullerwell.

Ryton.—Mr. Richard M. Weeks.

Stella.—Mr. Joseph Laycock.

Crawcrook.—Joseph Cowen, Esq.

Ryton Woodside.—Mr. Joseph Anderson.

The election of Poor Law Guardians, for the Newcastle Union, took place on Wednesday, March 24, and terminated in the appointment of the following gentlemen:—

All Saints'.—Mr. Richard Hopper, Mr. Joseph Hopper, Mr. David Hamilton Wilson, Mr. Francis Sanderson, Mr. Robert M'Allister, Mr. Robert Gilchrist, Mr. Matthew Stephenson Dodds, Mr. Robert Clark, and Mr. Wm. Darling Hay.

St. John's.—Mr. George Innes, Mr. John Gardner, Mr. Wm. Kirton, Mr. Wm. Brown, and Mr. Edward Storey.

St. Nicholas'.—Mr. Henry Ingledew, Mr. John Garrett, Mr. Wm. Nesham, and Mr. John Waller.

St. Andrew's.—Capt. James Dent Weatherley, Mr. Wm. Lee, Mr. Wm. Dunlop, Mr. Jasper Richardson, Sir John Fife, and Mr. Henry Ridley.

Westgate.—Mr. James Calbreath, and Mr. John Lindsay Angus.

Byker.—Mr. Matthias Dunn, Mr. John Beckington, jun., and Mr. Samuel Carr.

Heaton.—Mr. Edward Loraine.

Fenham.—Mr. William Ryles.

Jesmond.—Mr. Alexander George Gray.

Elswick.—Mr. William Proctor.

Benwell.—Mr. James Huntley.

The Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company held their annual meeting yesterday, in the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle, (M. Plummer, Esq., in the chair,) when a Report was read by the Secretary, which, on the whole, was satisfactory. The revenue of the past had exceeded that of the previous year by 5½ per cent. The Report was unanimously passed, and a dividend ordered of 6 per cent.: one-half to be paid on the 30th of April, and the other on the 29th of October.—MARCH 27.

The *Echo du Monde Savant*, (from which we occasionally borrow a few facts likely to interest our readers,) gives, in a recent number, a statistical notice of the births, deaths, &c., of the Austrian empire, with the exception of Hungary and Transylvania, showing the progress of the population in 1839. Of births, there were 177,563 more than in the preceding year, and an excess of 26,202 deaths. The total

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number of deaths was 650,339, and the causes of death were as follows:—

Ordinary diseases	620,416	Accidents	5,841
Endemical	11,396	Suicides	774
Epidemical	7,814	Murders	443
Smallpox	3,573	Executions	82

In Vienna, there were 3,369 marriages in 1840, being 195 more than in 1839. The births were 18,277, (770 more than in 1839); and the deaths 16,904, (439 more than in 1839). The deaths include 2,264 from old age, 1,489 dropsy, and 669 still born.

THE BORDER TOAST.—"The sheep of the Border, that claes our back and crams our weam; and may the shankbane of every sheep mak a whittle-haft, to cut the throats of our enemies wi'!"—*Swinburne's Courts of Europe.*

A PARTY AT CAPHEATON.—I joined my brother at Capheaton, who is not a little glad to get home, after having been taken prisoner—[on board a ship coming from the Continent]. We had a large party on the occasion. Lord Adam Gordon and many officers, Sir M. Ridley, Mr. Riddell of Swinburne, &c.—*Mem.* Sir M. Ridley's father was the miller of Blagdon mill.—Mr. Riddell's father lived at Fenham, and was called "the auld fox of Fenham," as old Sir John Swinburne was called "the auld carle of Capheaton."—*Swinburne's Courts of Europe.*

PARISIAN STATISTICS.—*La Presse* observes, that from documents laid before the Chamber of Deputies by the syndics of the butchers of Paris, it appears that the consumption of oxen in Paris, from the year 1819 to 1829, whilst the population was only 788,000 souls, amounted to 75,990 heads; whilst from the years 1829 to 1839, when the population had increased to 843,000 inhabitants, the consumption of oxen had fallen off to 69,520 heads. Independently of this deficit, it has been proved that the meat has been of inferior quality, and that the average weight, which during the former period was 720lb per ox, was reduced in 1840 to about 650lb per ox; so that whilst the beef offered for sale was of an inferior quality, the price increased from eight to eleven sous per pound. The following facts prove the value of protecting duties:—At the beginning of the Restoration, the import duty on oxen was raised from 4f. to 15f. per head, then to 25f., and finally to 50f., in order, as it was said, to protect national agriculture. The producers of stock, it was likewise said, would, encouraged by this tax, supply sufficient to render it unnecessary to have recourse to Belgium, Switzerland, or Baden. In consequence of the enormous tax, concludes *La Presse*, there are several millions of men in France who do not eat meat once a week. The population employed in factories are doubly taxed—first at the frontier, and afterwards at the entrance into towns. Thus, in Paris, the double duty payable on an ox is not less than 99f., which may be calculated on an average at three sous a pound; so that an operative in Paris who buys a pound of meat, pays a tax equal to the value of one pound of bread.

The subject of educating the blind, we are informed, was brought before the Committee of the Educational Society, at a meeting held in the beginning of May, 1837, at Mr. LIDDELL's, Carliol-street, Newcastle, by the Rev. JAMES PRINGLE. Present:—Ald. FIFE, Justice NICHOL, the Rev. Messrs. PRINGLE and BROWNING, and Messrs. J. FENWICK, R. WALTERS, A. CLAPHAM, J. WATSON, W. CARGILL, and D. LIDDELL. Mr. WILSON did not attend a meeting of the Committee until some months afterwards. Mr. LIDDELL began the work of teaching the blind to read in Newcastle, and was instrumental in procuring a considerable amount of subscriptions towards an asylum.

A PRINCELY ODDITY.—"I accompanied Baron de Swieten on a visit to the old Prince of Saxe Hildburghausen, who, at eighty years old, can raise a weight of three hundred pounds. He always retires to his rest at eight o'clock; and as he walks from his salon to his bedchamber, has men posted, who pull off his wig and clothes, so that he is ready for his bed by the time he gets to the door of his bedchamber. Thus scarcely two minutes suffice for his toilette."—*Swinburne's Courts of Europe.*

PRINCE CHARLIE.—In *Swinburne's Courts of Europe*, just published, it is written:—"I have met the Prince of Wales at several assemblies. He is a fine looking, fair young man, said to be very like the Pretender in his early youth, when he landed in Scotland. He is pleasing and well mannered." [It is well known that the habits of the unfortunate Prince Charles underwent a melancholy change in his latter days. Here is new evidence of that deplorable fact]:—"We went to the opera, where, for the first time, I beheld the poor unhappy representative of the Stuart race in the Comte d'Albanie. He goes regularly to the theatre, and always falls asleep in the corner of his box at the end of the first act, being generally intoxicated. His face is red, and his eyes are fiery—otherwise he is not an ill-looking man. The countess is not handsome, being black and sallow, with a pug nose. She always wears a hat. Alfieri, the Piedmontese, is a constant attendant in her box, with her *dame de compagnie*, Madame Malgan." [In a letter dated nearly a month after that in which the paragraph just quoted occurs, Mr. Swinburne again says]:—"On coming out of the opera, we passed close to the Pretender, who was *carried away*, at the end of the performance, being half asleep, and completely intoxicated, which is his invariable custom every night. Such is the force of habit. I drew my wife's attention to this undeserving object of all her Jacobitical adoration."

A SINGULAR AND BEAUTIFUL PHENOMENON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—On looking out at my door, to night, at 5 minutes before 9, a singular phenomenon presented itself in the sky. Not a cloud was to be seen—every character in "Heaven's golden alphabet" shone forth in all its glory—the planet Venus in particular, was magnificent in the western sky—the wind blew sharp from the north-west—the common Aurora Borealis was faintly visible within an arc of 45 degrees—while a brilliant, broad, white Auroral arch, stretched through the zenith, from south-west to north-east. How long it had continued, I cannot say; but, during ten minutes, it remained uniform and stationary. It then began to undulate towards the western extremity, and in a few minutes disappeared in the sky, about 75 degrees N.E. ascendant. I have no doubt that others will send you notices of this meteorological appearance.

Auroral arches through the zenith, moving in an opposite direction to the magnetic meridian, are very uncommon. Professor Forbes, in the Report of the British Association, mentions having traced one in March, 1826, from the north-east, through the zenith, till it vanished nearly on the horizon in the south-west.

It is now considered as an ascertained fact, that the Aurora influences the magnetic needle; and it is to be hoped, that mariners, given to observation, will make known any effects produced upon the needle by the singular electrical phenomenon which thousands must have gazed upon with astonishment to-night.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

SAMUEL DONKIN.

Bywell, near Felton, 10 o'clock, Monday night, March 22.

THE SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Shipwrecked Mariners, was held in the Guildhall, Newcastle, on Wednesday, March 24, W. Pearson, Esq. Master of the Trinity House, in the chair. The Report for the past year was read by the Hon. Secretary, Robt. Plummer, Esq. It stated that forty-one widows' cases having sixty-nine children, and five parents's cases having six children, had been relieved since last report; and that the sum of £103 10s. had been thus expended. The report directed attention to this being the tenth anniversary since the formation of the society, and took a brief review of the relief administered during the last ten years, and the other leading particulars of the society's progress in that period. It appeared that relief had been given to 510 widows' cases, to 20 orphans' cases, and to 45 parents' cases, making a total of 575 cases, which had connected with and dependents upon them, 1,029 children; and that £1,556 5s. had been distributed according to the necessities of each to these 575 cases. The report went on to state that the 22nd rule of the institution, declaring the necessity of creating a permanent fund, had been kept steadily in view by the Committee, and that they had, notwithstanding the heavy claims made upon the funds in some years, been enabled to invest £2250; £2000 of which was in the hands of the Corporation of Newcastle at 4 per cent. interest, and £250 was held in Newcastle and Carlisle railway debentures, at 5 per cent. interest. Allusion was next made to the extension which had occurred in the dispensation of the society's bounty, by having embraced new objects in its rules, from time to time: and to its now relieving not only the widows and orphans of seamen, but also parents bereft, by shipwreck, of the aid derived from their children's wages, as well as the widows, orphans, and parents of pilots, fishermen, and others connected with a sea-faring life. The balance in the Treasurer's hands (£69 14s. 11d.) was, together with the arrears of 1840, and nearly the whole of the subscriptions for 1841, yet to collect, deemed sufficient to meet the claims that might probably arise in the coming year. The report acknowledged the services of Mr. Fowler in behalf of the society, and recommended a vote of thanks for a sum of money collected after sermons preached by him. It also noticed, in a tone of deep regret, the death of the late Mr. Thomas Gibson, of the Trinity House, who had been a firm friend and supporter of this charity, and whose place in the society would have to be filled up by a gentleman resident in this town. Mr. Plummer stated, that the committee, aware of the obligations which the society owed to George Straker, Esq., and knowing that it

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was formed through his instrumentality, proposed that his name should be inserted in the title page of the rules, as the founder. This suggestion was immediately acted upon, a motion to the effect being unanimously carried. Mr. Straker returned thanks, and observed, that but for the able assistance of his friends, Mr. Plummer, and Messrs. Anderson and Fenwick, of South Shields, his own exertions would have been of little avail. He was, however, anxious to do everything in his power to promote the interests of the institution. On the motion of William Chapman, Esq., seconded by the Rev. Mr. Carr, incumbent of South Shields, it was resolved that the report be adopted and printed, together with the Treasurers' accounts; and that the thanks of the meeting be awarded to the honorary officers, and to Robert Plummer, Esq., for the continuance of his services as honorary secretary. Mr. Plummer, in reference to some remarks which had been made on the prosperous state of the funds, said he thought it necessary to draw the attention of the subscribers to the large amount of claims made upon the charity in 1833. That year, they would remember, was one of unusual severity. In August and September, there were two very heavy gales, which reduced a number of persons to the greatest destitution. In order to relieve them, the committee were compelled to step out of their usual course, and they expended £202 15s. He mentioned this to show the necessity of being well provided against emergencies; for it was impossible to tell how soon they might meet with a similar calamity. Mr. Straker followed up Mr. Plummer's remarks by observing, that they were not confined to any particular sums in the distribution of the money, but could increase the allowance to suffering families, according to their individual necessities. A vote of thanks was then given to William Pearson, Esq., the Master of the Trinity House, for his services in presiding at the meeting.

[In the afternoon, about 30 of the friends of the institution, including the Master of the Trinity House (Chairman), Robert Plummer, Esq., (Vice-President,) George Straker, Esq., Robert Anderson, Esq., of South Shields, G. H. Ramsay, Esq., of Derwent Villa, Thomas Grieveson, Esq., Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Lieut. Rogers, R.N., &c., &c., sat down to a sumptuous dinner, at the George inn, and spent an evening of the most gratifying kind—happily engrafting upon the social enjoyments of the passing hour, a determination to relieve the distresses and promote the comforts of their less fortunate fellow-creatures.]

PERFORMANCES OF THE PARSONS AT YORK.

"Most extraordinary proceedings," according to a full report in the *York Herald*, have been lately enacted in the cathedral of York, the principal performers being parsons, with the exception of Dr. Phillimore, a learned civilian, to whom the Archbishop, it seems, had committed the no very easy task of keeping his children-ecclesiastic in order.

A few words explanatory of the unholy "*row*" in the church may be useful. Thus then it is. The repairs of the Minster, from the days of Jonathan Martin downwards, have turned out, for the parsons, what may be called a "black" and heavy "job," the laity having failed to "bleed" as freely as was expected, and the property available to purposes of repair, having been gradually becoming beautifully less.

Money not being forthcoming, and a "church rate" for the restoration of a Minster being, as yet, rather beyond the pretensions of the "Establishment," some very pretty quarrels have arisen amongst the brethren of the chapter. The Dean, a gentleman who very naturally, as a parson, thinks that the profits and patronage appertaining to his office are just as well in his own keeping as in that of Bishops or Ecclesiastical Commissioners, has been dragged forth as a principal cause of all the mischief, and a solemn or "should-be solemn" investigation into the management of the affairs of the Chapter, but more particularly with reference to the conduct of the Dean, has been instituted by the Archbishop, as his ecclesiastical superior.

The Dean, poor man, is accused of simony, a "sin," according to the canons, "detestable" and "execrable before God." "What is this horrid thing, simony?" we think we hear some of our readers asking us. We dare not trust ourselves to define it, but offer our friends the explanation of the "books." "Simony," saith Burn, "hath its name from *Simon Magus*, who thought to have purchased the gift of the Holy Ghost for money; and 'simony,' say the canons, is a 'detestable sin, because *buying and selling* of spiritual and *ecclesiastical* functions, *offices*, promotions, *dignities*, and *livings*, is execrable before God.'"

Of the sin of "selling livings," then, the Dean of York stands charged; and the charge has been productive, we opine, of much more merriment to the idlers of York, than benefit to the interests of the "Establishment." But we must give a few specimens of the scenes enacted, and enacted, too, strange to say, in a portion of the cathedral called the "prayer house!"

The visitation, which had been adjourned, was reopened on Tuesday se'nnight, by the Commissary, Dr. Phillimore, before the clergy and a numerous lay auditory. The Dean was present, and denied the jurisdiction of the Commissary, and that dignitary replied by threatening to commit the Dean. The Commissary was proceeding, when the following "*smart* things," amongst others, were said:—

The Dean: I will not allow you to go on. You came here as my adversary.

Dr. Phillimore: I will not allow you to use such indecorous language.

Certain letters, addressed by the Dean to the Commissary, having been read by the latter, amidst much interruption by the Dean,

The Dean said: All this is miserably dirty work.

Dr. Phillimore: Is that the language you use?

The Dean: Yes. I have been treated most unhandsomely, and every thing has been done in the most shabby way. You have no right to sit here—your commission being at an end. (Confusion.)

Dr. Phillimore: Officer of the court, remove the Dean. (Uproar.)

The Dean: In no instance before was there ever this Venetian mode of dropping secret accusations into the lion's mouth.

Dr. Phillimore: Nonsense.

Mr. Harcourt: Mr. Dean, you are usurping the power of the Visitor.

Mr. Dean: I bid defiance to all sneaking and roguery. (Great uproar.)

Dr. Phillimore: This is most unseemly. I pronounce the Dean in contempt.

The Dean: I object to your jurisdiction. For 300 years the archbishops never set a foot in York Minster without authority from the Pope. It is no use trying to bully me—I am called here—and I bid defiance to you all.

Dr. Phillimore: I'll now state the order of proceeding. A most serious charge has been brought against the Dean by Mr. Dixon. I know nothing whether the charge is true or not.

The Dean: You know very well, you have got your judgment in your pocket.

Dr. Phillimore: I'll have the Dean removed.

The Dean went on speaking, and the Commissary directed the officer to remove him. On Mr. Jackson, the apparitor, proceeding towards him for the purpose, the Dean said, "Get another man, I'll go only by force." This observation occasioned loud calls of "order" and "applause" from the spectators. Mr.

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Dixon commenced to make his charge, and a scene of indescribable confusion ensued.

Dr. Phillimore: Contumacy, Mr. Dean, is a reason for suspension, and even deprivation; therefore leave this court at your peril.

The Dean: Oh! I have no doubt you will punish me if you can.

Dr. Phillimore, after much confusion, emphatically called out, "order in court."

The Dean: I am master here.

Dr. Phillimore: I'll hear you patiently afterwards, but if you interfere now I'll turn you out of court.

The Dean: I don't want to be heard by you, but by the public.

Dr. Phillimore: A pretty speech for the dignitary of a church—to appeal to the public!

After more altercation, Dr. Phillimore solemnly pronounced the Dean in contempt, and ordered him to be removed; but the Dean long and pertinaciously obstructed the proceedings, until at last, after threatening to prosecute the Commissary in the Queen's Bench, and lay his damages at £10,000, he withdrew.

The charges of "simony" and misappropriation of property were then entered into—many witnesses were examined—letters of the Dean put in, and admissions made, with respect to schools, by the Chapter Treasurer, of rather a curious character. Of the latter we give a specimen:—

"The Treasurer to the Dean and Chapter said he had various accounts opened—St. Peter's account, the fabric account, the school account, &c.—some of these accounts were then overpaid, and others had funds in hand. The overpayments on St. Peter's account were met by *borrowing the surplus of the school account*. St. Peter's account was overpaid about £900."

An old proverb, in connection with the treasuries of "Peter" and "Paul," will strike the reader forcibly on reading the above.

In accordance with our usual custom, we refrain from expressing any opinion on the guilt or innocence of the accused, until the case shall have been closed and judgment given; but it may be well to state that the Dean had made no secret of an intention to dispose the livings in his gift, having declared a year and a half ago, in a letter to the Chapter Clerk, that when he found the bishops "plotting" to get possession of all the Chapter preferments, he determined to sell all the livings in his gift, even for a *mere trifle*, in order to disappoint the Bishops of their expected plunder. And when advertisements for the sale of livings almost daily occur, and ecclesiastical lawyers tell us that clergymen may "easily frustrate" the statute against simony, by "*employing others to purchase for them*," (a piece of advice which, in all probability, more than one goodly parson may have acted upon,) we really cannot see much beyond the faults of his "order," and the natural consequences of a State Church, in the proceedings of Dean Cockburn. Indeed we are led to suspect that the Dean would have appeared less guilty in the eyes of many of his adversaries, had he been really *more* simoniacal than it is pretended he has been. Had he placed a higher value on the profits of his deanery, instead of disposing of the livings for a "mere trifle," or what is most likely was the case, *giving them away*—had he allowed bishops and others "to do what *they* would" with what *he* considered was "his own," his "sins" and his "persecutions" would have made less noise in the world.

An eye-witness of the proceedings to which we refer has assured the *Leeds Times* that the scene beggared all description. "Had it been a private tribunal," he says, "I would not have liked to be answerable for the consequence; but, thanks to the Dean, it was a public court, and of course there was more protection for the person of the accused. There seemed to be a bitter feeling of regret in the court, as the witnesses testified that the Dean was *not guilty* of the charge preferred against him."

The moral of these "most extraordinary proceedings" is truly valuable. Public attention has been called to the sale of livings—to the "execrable" and "detestable" sin which it involves. The holders of benefices, procured by purchase, must henceforth tremble in their pulpits if they ever preach, or in their closets if they ever pray; the unholy hucksters in "next presentations" and "perpetual advowsons" may hide their diminished heads, for, in future, of course, not a customer will be found; the humble and laborious curate may leap for joy, for he, and he only, will now be promoted to the good things of the Church; in short, a reform more radical by far than any that has preceded it, is evidently on the eve of penetrating into the very recesses of the temple.

What a consolation, too, to the victims of church-rate intolerance, do these scenes present! How nobly, as well as widely different, is the situation of the Leicester and Chelmsford martyrs, from that of the contending "ministers" of the minster! Whilst the conscientious Dissenter is wasting in his dungeon, his persecutors (the unclean birds that roost in the very "prayer houses" of the Establishment) are tearing each other with "bloody talon" in an unhallowed struggle for their prey!—April 3.

THE NEWCASTLE "IMPORT DUTIES."

We have called the attention of our readers, in previous numbers of our paper, to the impolicy and folly of a heavy and vexatious system of Import Duties, and have applauded the wise and statesmanlike view of the subject taken by the Parliamentary Committee from whose report we quoted.

To the people of Gateshead, and of North and South Shields, we now particularly address ourselves, but the matter of which we shall treat is also of vast importance to the people of Newcastle. No time is to be lost, we tell all these parties, if they would successfully resist the infliction of a grievous wrong—if they would avert a blow, aimed, we do not believe wilfully, but certainly inconsiderately, at the rising prosperity of the trade of the Tyne. A Committee of the Gateshead Council has already met and acted, and it is full time that the other communities of the port should be up and doing.

We refer to the "Import Duties," which the Corporation of Newcastle is now endeavouring to prevail upon Parliament to allow it to levy, in the shape of "Quay and Town Dues," on various articles of merchandize which may be brought, either coastwise or from foreign countries, into the Tyne.

The attempt is made in the shape of a Bill whose "title" certainly is not calculated to arouse suspicion. It is endorsed "Newcastle-upon-Tyne *Improvement*," and is intituled "A Bill to Alter and Extend an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present

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Majesty, intituled 'An Act for Regulating and Improving the Borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.'"

On looking into the Bill, however, and comparing it with the Act which it is intended to "alter and extend," we find it by no means so innocent a document as its title tempts us to believe. We have had some little difficulty (probably from the innate modesty of its authors) in procuring a peep—the document being rather "scarce," as bookworms say—only a "very limited number of copies," we presume, being printed, for the gratification of the curious.

The preamble quaintly tells us that "it is expedient that the tolls, town and quay dues, and other dues, authorised to be levied and taken by the said recited Act (the Act of 1837), should be *reduced, modified*, and *varied*," but it adds, truly, that such objects "cannot be effected without the *aid* and *authority* of Parliament."

Now, who would have suspected, on meeting so modest an exterior, on the Bill, and reading the modest preamble by which its clauses are introduced to the notice of Parliament, that it really contained a Tariff of Quay and Town Dues, not only formidable by its length and weight, and curious by the ingenuity it displays in endeavouring to encompass within its capacious clutches almost every conceivable article of import in which either the present or future generations of the northern public may have a fancy to indulge, but absolutely and obviously unjust, by imposing duties upon articles not authorized to be taxed by the Act of Parliament whose taxing powers it pretends only to "reduce"! "modify"!! and "vary"!!!

With the "Thorough Toll" we leave the people of Newcastle themselves to deal. If the good folks of that town consent to throw impediments in the way of their customers, or to add, by taxation, to the cost of the articles they require, all we can say is, the shopkeepers of neighbouring towns ought to be very much obliged to them. The more "Thorough Toll" in Newcastle the better for the general population of Gateshead. The manufacturers who supply Newcastle may certainly suffer, and we know they do suffer by the imposition of the "thorough toll;" but after all, the loss will fall eventually on the consumer. The eater of bread for instance in Gateshead, where no "thorough toll" is levied, is in a better situation, with respect to price, *or he may be so if he choose*, than his neighbour north of the bridge. It is not surprising, therefore, that in looking over the "thorough toll" schedule in the new Act, we find the catalogue of tollable articles somewhat shorter than its predecessor.

The "second schedule," however—the schedule, we mean, of Quay and Town Dues, payable on the importation of merchandise into the port of Newcastle—that is, on the entrance of the vessel into the Tyne, from foreign or colonial ports, let the cargo be landed either at Shields, Gateshead, or any where else upon its shores, is constructed upon quite a different principle. Instead of reducing, modifying, and varying the catalogue, its contents are astonishing for both number and novelty. The commercial student, as well as the curious inquirer, would find himself amply repaid by studying it. It is a perfect nomenclature of trade—embracing the productions of every clime, and the requisites of every art. Instead of 149 articles of "Quay and Town" taxation which the schedule of 1837 contains, the present presents to the wondering public a list of no less than 639! Then, again, and the most important of all, is the list of Quay and Town Dues payable on the importation of goods *either coastwise or from foreign ports*. We say most important, because in it is attempted to be smuggled aright to levy a duty of fourpence per ton on bar-iron, and twopence per ton on pig-iron, as well as a duty on tile-stones, to which the Corporation is not entitled by the Act of 1837. We care not what may be said of customs and prescriptions. In 1837, legislative authority was preferred and obtained by the Corporation, and by it that body must be compelled to abide.

Thus the trade of the Tyne, particularly that portion of it in connection with iron—a branch upon which, under the present circumstances of the Coal Trade, the prosperity of this great district most materially depends—is subjected, by the Bill now before Parliament for the improvement of the town of Newcastle, to a new and onerous imposition—an imposition totally unauthorized by the Improvement Act already passed, and one whose only, and that most injurious, effect would be, to raise a revenue for the especial use and convenience of Newcastle, by obstructing and oppressing the trade of its neighbours.

The charges for "the use of the cranes on the public quay," and the "quayside tolls," are as impolitic to the full as the "thorough toll"—the general interest requiring that they should be either totally abolished, or reduced to the lowest possible amount; but, like the "thorough toll," they are matters more particularly concerning the inhabitants of Newcastle.

As difficulties may occur in procuring copies in the north, of the Bill to which these observations refer, we advise our friends at North and South Shields to write to London immediately, lest "collectors of curious tracts" should be beforehand with them. But, at all events, a copy is in the hands of the Town Clerk of this borough; and he being an obliging gentleman, will feel no scruple, we dare say, in exhibiting it to any one, for the benefit of the public.

To estimate the injury which these tolls on iron would inflict on the trade of Gateshead, Tynemouth, and South Shields, as well as on that of Newcastle itself, is impossible. We shall not attempt so sad a task. We have laid a plain statement before the public, and we leave that public to assert its rights. We are certain that if proper steps be taken, a successful resistance may be made, and we cannot believe that the commercial communities around us, which have attained their present greatness by honest industry and unsullied independence, will sit tamely down under imposts and obstructions to which their rivals—their honourable, but still their active and persevering rivals—on neighbouring rivers, are not exposed. Are the Councillors of Newcastle emigration-smitten? Do they consider the population on the Tyne redundant, that they are devising measures for the transfer of capital from its shores, to districts where a wiser and better policy prevails?

The Earldom of Perth, so familiar to the northern public, from the claim of Thomas Drummond, the pitman, of Penshaw, in this county, who really made out a good *prima facie* case, is again the subject of claim—a Mr. George Drummond, formerly a captain in the 93d regiment of Highlanders, and now Duc de Melfort in France, having petitioned the House of Lords on Monday last, and his petition having been referred to the Committee of Privileges. Thomas Drummond states,

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in his address (1830), that his grandfather was the General James Drummond, of the rebel army, who fought at the battle of Culloden, and who was commonly called the Duke of Perth, and who, after the defeat, came to Biddick, on the river Wear, where he married and died. His son, the father of the claimant (Thomas), was "a quiet, unambitious, and religious man, who was afraid to make known his claims."

Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., we are glad to learn, has resigned the office of President of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, his views on the Corn Question being, in his opinion, incompatible with a longer tenure of that honourable post. For this resolve, the honourable baronet is entitled to credit—it is precisely what might be anticipated from a man of feeling and reflection; and if our remarks have in any wise contributed to the resolution, all we can say is, we are amply repaid.

A meeting of gentlemen interested in the iron trade of the port of Newcastle, was held on Thursday last, to consider the quay and town dues proposed to be levied by the Corporation of Newcastle, under the Bill now before Parliament for the improvement of the town, (Charles Bulmer, Esq., in the chair,) when a resolution was unanimously passed, that it was the opinion of the meeting, that, should the application of the Town Council of Newcastle to Parliament, praying for power to levy tolls or dues upon cast or wrought iron, be acceded to, it will prove highly prejudicial to the interests of the iron-trade in this neighbourhood, and that a remonstrance be framed, and presented to the Council, on the subject. A deputation was then appointed, consisting of W. Brown, M. Wheatley, James Wakinshaw, and John Jobling, Esqrs., for the purpose of carrying the resolution into effect, and to report the result to a future meeting.—April 3.

A Committee of the Newcastle Council will sit, we understand, on Thursday next, to hear suggestions relative to to the New Town Improvement Bill. The observations we have elsewhere made on the Bill, are respectfully offered to the consideration of the Committee. To abolish tolls and dues entirely, or at least to reduce them to the lowest possible amount, is our "suggestion:" and by acting on such a principle, the Corporation would merit and receive the thanks of the public; whilst any attempt to impose additional duties, can only be attended with discredit and defeat.—April 3.

Messrs. John Lister, jun., Henry Davidson, Philip Smith, and Thomas Liddell, have been chosen overseers of the parish of Gateshead, for the ensuing year.

Messrs. James Smith, Samuel E. Pearse, Thomas Revely, and William Kenmir, were chosen Surveyors of the Highways for the parish of Gateshead, at a meeting of the rate-payers, held in the vestry of St. Mary's church, on Monday Mar. 29, (the Rev. J. Davies in the chair). Mr. Thomas Hopper was also put in nomination by Mr. Joseph Robson. A resolution was also passed, that in future the books of the surveyors should be produced at the annual meetings.

The Great North of England Railway, from Darlington to York, was opened on Tuesday last, by the Directors and their friends. It was opened in January for merchandise—it is now in full operation as a passenger-line. The proceedings of Tuesday, we are happy to record, passed over without a single accident to mar the pleasure of the day; and at the dinner in the evening, at the King's Head, Darlington, (G. H. Wilkinson, Esq., in the chair,) their seemed to be but one feeling on a subject of great importance to the Tyne, viz., the extension of the railway to Newcastle. All were agreed that this was most important, and *must* be done.—April 3.

Arrangements are now in progress, for coaches to leave Newcastle in time to reach the early trains of the Great North of England Railway at Darlington, so that parties may arrive in London the same night. This will be an immense accommodation to the northern public.

The anniversary Court of Governors of the Infirmary was held on Thursday, when the following officers were appointed, viz:—John Lambton Loraine, Esq. of Fawdon House, and John Dale, Esq. of North Shields, Stewards for Northumberland; F. W. Stanley, Esq. of Bensham Lodge, and Henry Stobart, Esq. of Etherley, Stewards for Durham; Joseph Crawhall, Esq. of St. Ann's House, and John Bulman, Esq., of Eldon street, Stewards for Newcastle. The Rev. William Turner, and W. S. Batson, Geo. Brumell, P. G. Ellison, Hedley Vicars, A. L. Potter, William Chapman, R. P. Philipson, Geo. Clementson, Emerson Charnley, J. L. Loraine, and John Bulman, Esqrs. House Committee.—Edward John Collingwood, Esq. of Chirton House, has become an annual subscriber of £3 3s.

The Bishop of Durham has very handsomely contributed the sum of ten guineas towards the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms.

Cuthbert Ellison, Esq., has given £25 towards the erection of a chapel at Windy Nook.

A *Soiree*, terminating for the season a series of lectures on popular and scientific subjects, delivered by Mr. Liddell, of Newcastle, and other gentlemen, was held in the chapel at Allotment, on Monday evening, (Mr. W. Hunter, viewer, Backworth colliery, in the chair). On the walls of the chapel there were several celestial and terrestrial maps, with diagrams and sections, illustrative of mining operations, &c. Tickets were issued for the number which could be comfortably accommodated, and, long before the meeting, many were disappointed in not being able to procure passports; while a considerable number from distant places appeared at the commencement of the *Soiree*, in expectation of finding tickets. Many were admitted, therefore, beyond what the committee intended, to the crowding of the place, and all were entertained in the most liberal and hospitable manner. Interesting speeches on the education and mental improvement of the working classes, which were heard with the greatest attention, were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Hunter and Sawyers, and Dr. Geo. Fife, of Newcastle; the Rev. Mr. Macreath, and Messrs. Kennedy and Murton, of South Shields; and Mr. Rattray, of West Cramlington. A vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. Craig, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, was cordially awarded to the owners of the colliery, for their patronage and aid, which was acknowledged by T. Taylor, jun., Esq. He assured the meeting that the owners would readily and willingly give their countenance and support to measures for diffusing knowledge among those in their employment, and contributing to their comfort and happines. A vote of thanks was also awarded to Mr. Liddell, and the other gentlemen who had delivered lectures—to the committee who had made arrangement for these lectures—to the ladies who presided at the tea-tables—to the gentlemen who had addressed the meeting, and to the chairman. The anthem-band from Earsdon kindly attended, and added greatly to the evening's entertainment. This *Soiree* is perhaps the first that has taken place at a colliery in this district, in reference to popular education, and it may indicate the commencement of a great improvement in the condition of the colliery population.—April 3.

DURHAM EASTER QUARTER SESSIONS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Easter Genera Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Durham, will be holden at the County Courts, Durham, on Monday, the 5th day of April, 1841, at nine o'clock in the morning; when all Jurors, Suitors, Constables, Persons bound by Recognizance, Sheriff's Officers, and others having business at the said Sessions (except Parties and Witnesses in cases of Appeals), are required to attend. And all Persons engaged in cases of Appeal are required to attend on Tuesday, the 6th day of April, at nine o'clock in the morning. All Appeals intended for hearing, as well those *previously respited* as new Appeals, must be entered with the Clerk of the Peace before twelve o'clock of the first day of the Sessions; and if not so entered, they will be adjourned, unless the Court shall otherwise direct. The Court will, on the first day of the Session, commence with and finish all business in which a Jury is necessary, before they proceed to other matters; and the Court will, at its sitting, on the second day of the Sessions, or as soon afterwards as all the cases requiring a Jury shall be disposed of, hear Motions, Parish Appeals, and other Matters.—*And Notice is also hereby given*, that at ten o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, the third day of the Sessions, and also at twelve o'clock at noon, at adjournments of the said Sessions, to be holden at the Justice Room, County Courts, Durham, in and for the said County, on the first Saturday in each of the months of May and June next, all business which shall come before the Court on the said days and times, appertaining to the Assessment, Application, or Management of the County Stock or Rate of the said County, will commence and be transacted in upen Court.

☞ Certificates of the illness of Jurymen, as excuses for

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non-attendance, will, in no case, be allowed *without affidavit, or proof upon oath, in open Court*, verifying the same.

Persons intending to prefer Bills of Indictment are requested to send instructions for the same on or before Thursday, the 1st day of april next. WALTER SCRUTON,
Deputy Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of the Peace's Office, Durham,
March 17th, 1841.

RURAL POLICE OUTRAGE.

WE, the undersigned Inhabitants of Wrekenton, desire thus to express our severe disapprobation and of the Rural Police Force, stationed at Ayton Banks, has on various occasions unnecessarily and impertinently interfered in matters which are entirely out of his jurisdiction, and particularly in one instance, which happened on Sunday, the 28th inst., he having, without any apparent cause, ill-treated in a most shameful and brutal manner, by cruelly beating with a stick, one JOHN BELLERBY, an inoffensive young man, of respectable parents of this place.

Thomas Bellerby,	George Armstrong,
John Hildreth,	Richard Simpson,
Samuel Brewis,	John Miller,
T. S. Robson,	Forster Fairlamb,
John Dobson,	Joseph Fairlamb,
Edward Robson,	Matthew Robson,
Simpson Rutherford,	Henry Dawson,
John Robson,	William Robson,
Robert Angus,	William Selkirk,
John Fewster,	Andrew Selkirk,
George Sharp,	John Pallister,
George Sharp, jun.,	Robert Whinham,
Whitfield Wilson,	Robert Gardner,
Thomas Richardson,	John Brown,
George Wind,	Thomas Chisholm.
Jonathan Lumsdon,	

Wrekenton, 31st March, 1841.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PEACE SOCIETY, NEWCASTLE.

THE annual meeting of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Peace Society was held in the Salem-chapel, Hood-street, on Thursday evening, April 8.

F. WALTERS, Esq., took the chair, and the meeting was numerous and respectable.

The SECRETARY read the Report of the Committee, of which we give an abridgment:—

It is with satisfaction that the Committee of the Newcastle Peace Society present to the annual meeting a detail of more extensive and varied labours than have usually fallen within the compass of one year's operations. At the same time, they deeply deplore the cause which has given rise to those increased exertions, viz., the continual rumour of war—the existence of war itself in various quarters—and, more than all, the implication of our beloved country in the awful responsibility of carrying this fearful scourge to several regions of the globe. The following is a brief outline of the year's proceedings:—

The two travelling Agents of the London Society, who arrived soon after the last anniversary, were engaged to deliver lectures in Newcastle and Hexham—at the close of which tracts were freely distributed. The Committee also took charge of introducing one of the Agents to many of the public schools in Newcastle and Gateshead, where he delivered addresses, and distributed tracts suitable for children.

An edition of 9,000 copies of a tract, entitled the "Testimony of John Nelson against the Practice of War," was undertaken on the suggestion of the London Committee, who joined in the expense. John Nelson having been one of the earliest ministers of the Wesleyan Methodists, opportunity was taken to place a copy of this tract in the hands of each of the Wesleyan ministers attending Conference in Newcastle; also to make a distribution, about the same time, to the various congregations of that body in Newcastle and Gateshead.

The ministers of the Gospel in Newcastle and Gateshead have been generally visited by members of the Committee, with a view to interest them in the Society's proceedings. Several expressed themselves decidedly favourable, and a selection of tracts was presented to each minister.

An assortment of the tracts has been placed under the care of the Town Missionary, for general distribution, and another parcel has been consigned to the charge of a minister in North Shields, for the seamen of the port.

Copies of Ladd's Essay on a Congress of Nations have been presented to several of the public institutions, and also to the Editors of the various newspapers in Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, and Shields, several of whom noticed the work favourably in their columns.

A parcel of J. J. Gurney's address on War and Peace having been consigned to the care of the Committee, a copy has been presented to all the regular ministers of the Gospel in Northumberland and Newcastle, as far as they could be ascertained.

A course of interesting weekly lectures is now in progress of delivery by a respected minister of Gateshead (the Rev. Joseph Barker), under the auspices of the Committee. These lectures are held in a different chapel each time, and have been numerously attended. Animated discussions have arisen, and a considerable number of tracts have been sold at reduced prices on these occasions.

The Committee feel pleasure in acknowledging the assistance of a fellow-labourer resident in South Durham, who visited Newcastle in the course of last summer, and delivered a satisfactory and convincing lecture to a numerous and interesting auditory.

The depôt for the Society's publications has been removed to a convenient situation, No. 59, Pilgrim-street, and placed under the care of Mr. G. A. Brumell, in consequence of the resignation of the former depositaries, Messrs. Finlay & Charlton, whose past services the Committee desire gratefully to acknowledge.

The lamentable occurrence of war in various parts of the East claimed the serious attention of the Committee, who obtained the co-operation of several ministers, unconnected with the Society, in holding a public meeting to consider the subject. A memorial to the Queen, praying for a pacific line of policy, was moved and carried, and several interesting and instructive speeches were delivered. The memorial, after receiving a number of respectable signatures, was forwarded to the Marquis of Normanby, who promised to present it to her Majesty.

Notwithstanding that the unsettled state of public affairs has given rise to apprehensions for the general peace, not yet altogether allayed, there are certain indications of a pleasing character, which have of late claimed the attention of the philanthropist, and may well inspire him with the hope that better times are at hand.

The supreme legislative body in the United States has shown itself so far awake to the importance of preserving peace, as to refer to its Committee on Foreign Affairs a project for establishing a Congress of Nations, which was pressed upon the attention of that body by three of the American Peace Societies, and also by the State Legislature of Massachusets. The Committee referred to, entered deeply into the subject, and concluded their long and able report with an express recommendation to the Peace Societies to persevere in their efforts till war shall have become universally unpopular.

Another cheering sign has been afforded during the late trying season of suspense and apprehension, by the calm dignity of the public mind in this country, and the general repugnance to war, and especially to a rupture with France, which have shone forth conspicuously, and all but universally, in the columns of the public press.

The following memorable words are also worthy of notice, as expressing the sentiment of a late Prime Minister:—"Let it not be forgotten, that, in this country, the question of war depends in no slight degree upon the feelings of the people of England." And an American Senator has pronounced Public Opinion to be "The Queen of the World." It is doubtless a mighty instrument in the hand of Providence for correcting abuses in the social system; and it is a power which the philanthropist may do much to influence, both in private circles and through the press and public meetings. The embracing of every fitting opportunity for making an impression through these channels, is the province and the duty of Peace Societies; and a serious responsibility will be incurred if they fail to turn this agency to account for the purpose of abolishing war. The world desires its abolition—the Gospel demands it—and prophecy declares that it shall be accomplished. May the happy day be hastened when "every man shall sit under his own vine, and under his own fig tree, none daring to make him afraid—for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts hath spoken it."

Mr. G. RICHARDSON moved the adoption of the Report, and congratulated the Society on the increasing interest taken by the public in its peaceful objects.

Mr. M. FORSTER seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

The Rev. H. O. TREWELLA, after showing that war was directly at variance with the Gospel, moved:—"That this meeting, looking upon war as one of the most severe national calamities, feels constrained to express its thankful acknowledgments to Almighty God, for the merciful preservation from its immediate influence experienced by our beloved country through a long series of years."

Mr. J. PRIESTMAN, in seconding the motion, expressed his regret that so few of that sex were present, whose influence over the youthful mind was all-powerful.—Motion carried.

The Rev. D. C. BROWNING moved:—"That this meeting unites in the earnest desire, that He who has all power in heaven and in earth will impress the hearts of our rulers and fellow-countrymen with that spirit of obedience to His holy law of love, and with that sense of gratitude for His merciful providence, which shall restrain them from carrying the scourge of war to other nations of the earth."

Mr. M. FORSTER having seconded the motion, it was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. D. ADAM, town-missionary, showed war to be opposed alike to individual and social good, and moved:—"That this meeting thankfully rejoices in the brightening prospects for peace amongst the various nations professing the Christian name, and calls upon every friend of humanity to assist in the propagation of those gospel principles which, if allowed their

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legitimate influence over nations and individuals, would establish the empire of peace on a basis never to be shaken."

Mr. C. L. REMOND, a gentleman of colour, (one of the delegates to the "World's Convention,") seconded the resolution, which was passed *nem. con.*

Mr. J. WEIR moved the following appointments for the ensuing year: Treasurer, Mr. Edward Richardson; Secretaries, Messrs. D. M'Allum, Mr. Henry Richardson, and Mr. Joseph Watson; Depositary, Mr. G. A. Brumell; Committee, Rev. Dr. Lockhart, Rev. D. Adam, Rev. Joseph Barker, Rev. D. C. Browning, Rev. H. O. Trewella, and Messrs. Matthew Forster, George Richardson, Daniel Oliver, G. A. Brumell, John Weir, Thomas Gray, Robert Banks, John Richardson, Jonathan Priestman, Daniel Oliver, jun., and William Beaumont.

Mr. BRUMELL seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman, on the motion of Mr. TREWELLA, seconded by Mr. PRIESTMAN, and the meeting separated.

The greatest attention and interest prevailed during the proceedings of the evening.

PRIVATE THEATRICALS.

SCENE FIRST.—VICARAGE.

VICAR.

GOOD morning, Clerk! I need thy services.
Thou know'st, for some time past, thyself and I,
Both faithful servants of our Holy Church,
Have felt ourselves aggrieved. The various offices
Pertaining to our parish, have, of late,
Been fill'd by men of dubious character—
Dissenters, Quakers, and those kinds of men
Who view our Church with an ungracious eye,
Looking too closely into every question
That's in our vestry mooted.

CLERK.

The Wardens, too, who ever should be found
Supporting every measure you propose,
Have all, of late, been ranged with your fell foes.

VICAR.

Could it be otherwise? They were propos'd
By one whom I have ever deemed to be
The most implacable of all my enemies.

CLERK.

Your Reverence must henceforward wield your power
With a more manly hand.

VICAR.

So I intend! And therefore 'tis that I
Of you this morning seek a conference.
And first, my dear and highly-valued friend,
I'd have the present Guardians all dismissed,
And men of more subservient temperament
Sustaining the high duties of the Board.
Can we effect our purpose?

CLERK.

I think we may? Do *you* suggest the plan—
I will perform what may be done by man.

VICAR.

Accept my thanks, my ever-loving Clerk!
I ever found thee ready to apply
Thy vigorous mind to every enterprize
Connected with our Church. Ah! I could weep
To witness such devotion to myself!
Come! we'll take wine! Perchance it may impart
A sterner feeling to my panting heart.

CLERK.

'Tis pleasant wine! Methinks a little new.
But how shall we proceed?

VICAR.

I'll tell thee how!
At the remotest hour the law allows
For nominations, shall you a list slip in,
Of most devoted partisans. Myself, for one!
And thee, my ever sweet Amen!
And—let me see!—young Master Supple—
Let him the third one be!

CLERK.

A very proper list! Leave all to me!
I will prepare it straight—and thus shall we
Secure our noble triumph gloriously. [*Exit* CLERK.

VICAR, SOLUS.

Thus, while Suspicion sleeps am I at work.
The train is laid; and from this hour, I swear,
No man shall hold an office in my cure,
Who will not yield obedience to my will.
I know the tool I have employed is weak;
But I must feed him with the food he likes—
Old wine and flattery. And he, perchance,
May suit me better than a wiser man.
Things must be done that all men will not stoop to.
But he'll be here anon. [*Sings.*]
With my whiskers so trim,
And my three-corner'd brim,
And my gown, as it floats on the air,
O! I am the boy
At a tender decoy,
Or a soft tête-a-tête with the fair.

SCENE SECOND.

VICAR.

All hail! my trusty Greek! I long to hear
The tale of our success! Say, do the knaves
Acknowledge now that I possess the tact
To overreach them in their dark designs?
Come! tell me quickly! were their eyes on fire?
Did they glance daggers at thee, as thou laid'st
The deed of deposition in their hands?
Were they not rabid—raving—ere thou left?
Tell me at once, my very Mercury!

CLERK.

I'm sorry to inform your Reverence—
The tide has set against us. Although I held
My paper back until the latest time
By law allowed, hoping that by our foresight we
Would take them by surprise, and so prevent
All effort on their part to counteract us,
Still have they stole a march—and we are floor'd!

VICAR.

How! have they outwitted thee? or art thou bribed?

CLERK.

I handed them our list—at which they smiled;
And handing me their own, they quaintly said
We've framed a list will suit us quite as well.
I felt it, then, my business to make
A general call upon the rate-contributors,
Advising them, with all my eloquence,
To promise to our list their best support.

VICAR.

I hope you made the colliery-votes secure!

CLERK.

I grieve to say the colliery-votes are pledged,
As are the landlords' all the country round,
To our opponents' side. The Corporation, too—
Railway-directors—all the men, in fact,
Of any weight or standing in the parish,
Appear'd to view us with a strange distrust,
And hold us worthless of their confidence.

VICAR.

Perdition take them all! Come! Popery, come!
Tortures and Inquisition with thee bring!
And let the Church once more assert her rights!
Then shall we see if saucy layman dare
To wag his wanton tongue against a priest!
But I have been betrayed! And, varlet, thou,
Low, fawning sycophant, hast sold my cause!
Thy want of wit has marred as fair a plot
As ever priestly Jesuit, "ingenious" in "device," conceived!
Out from my sight! thou smellest so strong of drink,
I cannot bear the odour of thy breath!
Make no reply, but make thy body scarce,
Lest I do tear yon sapling from the earth,
And choke thee with its roots!
[*Exit*, followed by the CLERK.

There were two contested elections in the North Shields Union, in March last, viz., in the parishes of Tynemouth and Wallsend. In Tynemouth, the poll stood thus:—

ELECTED.			
Mr. Robert Spence	369	Mr. Robert Pow	196
Mr. John Tinley	348	NOT ELECTED.	
Mr. Joseph Laing, jun.	273	Mr. C. U. Laws	195
Mr. Solomon Mease	252	Rev. C. Reed	193
Mr. George Cruddas	242	Mr. John Owen	184
Rev. Archibald Jack	201	Mr. John Rennison	133
		Mr. B. C. Tyzack	112

At Wallsend, our old acquaintance, the perpetual curate, together with his friends, sustained a signal defeat. We give the poll:—

ELECTED.		NOT ELECTED.	
Mr. Joseph Hetherington	108	Mr. Thomas Jameson	25
Mr. G. G. Russell	105	Mr. Joseph Mordue	20
Mr. Charles Weatherley	101	Rev. John Armstrong	14
Mr. Thomas Davison	100	Mr. Joseph Straker	4

Mr. Straker, we understand, was nominated contrary to his own wishes, and it was known that he had no desire to be elected.

The building for the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms is to be commenced forthwith, the plan and contract having been decided upon on Wednesday, April 7.

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The "Smithson" story, related by Horace Walpole to the scandal of the House of Northumberland, has long been studiously shunned by the Duke's organ, the *Newcastle Journal;* but our contemporary, in his paper of Saturday last, has ventured to quote an article from the *Farmers' Journal*, commencing thus:—

That the short-horns are not a "breed of yesterday" is very evident from the best authorities. Sir Hugh Smythson's family, the predecessors of the first Duke of Northumberland, who lived at Stanwix, Yorkshire, near the Tees, were eminent for their cattle two hundred years back.

This is unpardonable!—His Grace can never overlook the connection of his title with the name of "Smythson!" And then, the coupling of it with an allusion to "breeds of yesterday!!!" Fie! fie! the *Journal* should be more discreet.

Mr. Hutt, in a letter to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Dundee, says, in reference to the Sound dues:—"It will be satisfactory to know, that there is now every prospect of these dues being abolished. The present proposition is to reduce the whole tariff to its legal dimensions, and to collect the dues either at the port of departure or destination, so as to abolish all necessity for stopping the ship on her voyage, or for exposing the ship's company to troublesome ceremonies and restrictions. But, in addition to this, there is a disposition on the part of the northern states to buy up the dues altogether, and leave the passage of the Sound free to the commerce and navigation of the world. This will be a great improvement, and I feel great satisfaction in having contributed to effect it."

Mr. William Barkus, of Allerdean, has succeeded the late lamented John Straker, Esq., as the head-viewer of Seaton Delaval Colliery; and Mr. Frederick Lamb succeeds Mr. Barkus, at Sheriff Hill Colliery.

Mr. H. Lambton has reached Paris on his way to London, to resume his Parliamentary duties after the Easter holidays. The health of the honourable gentleman, we rejoice to say, is very much improved; and in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, we can confidently assure the Reformers of the Northern Division of Durham, that he will again appear before them, to solicit a renewal of their confidence and support.

The quarterly meeting of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society was held in the Three Indian Kings, Quayside, on Tuesday last, (Charles Smith, Esq., in the chair,) when letters from Mr. Ord, Mr. Hinde, and Mr. Hutt were read, promising co-operation with Mr. Gillespy, the London Representative of the Society, in furthering its objects to the utmost of their power. A variety of interesting matters of business were transacted:—amongst others, resolutions were passed to inquire into the duration of the Whitby and Scarborough pier-dues—and to instruct Mr. Gillespy to urge upon the attention of the General Society applications to Government, with a view to the discouragement of salvage claims on merchant vessels by the naval servants of the Crown—and also the prevention of desertion by seamen in North America. A memorial on the subject of the Sound dues had been sent to Mr. Hutt, for presentation to Lord Palmerston; and a letter from Mr. H. was read, stating that he had "presented the document personally to Lord Palmerston, who requested him to assure the parties from whom it emanated, that his attention was fixed on the subject of their remonstrance, and that he had strong hopes of bringing his negotiations with the Court of Denmark, respecting the Sound dues, to a prompt and satisfactory issue."—April 10.

The Rev. R. Clayton and the Rector of Gateshead Fell preached sermons on Sunday, April 4, at Gateshead Fell church, (that in the afternoon by desire of the Odd Fellows); after which collections were made, amounting to £16 17s. 3½d., in aid of the funds for repairing, warming, &c., the church.

The Directors of the South Australian Company have recently published, in the shape of a circular, a variety of very interesting extracts of information on the real condition of South Australia, which seems to be advancing in an extraordinary degree. Not much more than four years ago, the spot on which the city of Adelaide stands was "a desert unknown to Europeans," and its port, "now filled with large shipping, an unknown salt water lake, covered only by water-fowl, and enclosed in a mangrove swamp." Population is rapidly increasing, and trade keeping pace with it. In June, 1840, the colony numbered 14,000 souls—possessed 180,000 sheep, 15,000 horses, 2,600 pigs, and 400 goats, and had, of surveyed acres, 359,975. The houses in Adelaide amounted to 2,412 (816 of which were of brick or stone), including eight churches and meeting-houses. Wages, *per day*, were as follows:—Carpenters, 12s. to 15s.; masons and bricklayers, 12s. to 14s.; and labourers, 6s. to 7s.; and what is more gratifying still is, that while sheep had fallen in 1840 as compared with 1839, 20s., and cattle £4 per head, wages remained the same. The imports and exports were astonishing for so young a community—the latter including ("for the *first* six months of its *first* productive year") 781 bales of wool, 595 casks of oil, and 650 bundles of whalebone. The revenue accounts afford an equally forcible evidence of success—the first quarter of 1839 having produced only £2,750, whilst the corresponding period of 1840 realized £7,371. We are sorry we have not more space for extracts from the interesting circular of the Company, but we presume copies may be readily obtained.

Mr. Hutt, in the present session of Parliament, procured a Return of the Gross Receipts of Customs Duty collected at each Custom House of the United Kingdom, in the years ending Jan. 5, 1840 and 1841. We give an extract, omitting shillings and pence.

Ports.	*Receipts,* 1839.	*Receipts,* 1840.	*Repaid,* 1840.	*Expences,* 1840.	*Remitted,* 1840.
Berwick.....	£10,998	£10,696	£64	£8,199	£5,095
Carlisle.....	30,132	23,111	19	1,494	30,831
Hull.....	884,443	800,412	3,335	38,956	755,205
Liverpool.....	4,234,118	4,607,328	45,445	107,672	4,454,829
Newcastle	464,219	443,294	3,359	15,559	424,308
Scarborough.....	1,874	1,887	0	1,965	1,416
Stockton.....	84,213	97,225	328	6,113	90,857
Sunderland.....	111,731	119,681	1,347	6,521	112,953
Whitby.....	2,829	6,654	50	3,347	3,914
Whitehaven	107,540	92,831	571	4,800	87,467

Delicate Affair.—Our correspondent in a populous country town, in the northern part of this county, writes to us as follows:—"There is nothing here this week new, except the separation of —— ——, Esq., and his newly-married wife; which has caused a great sensation in this neighbourhood, they having been only eleven weeks married. She is a beautiful and highly accomplished lady, and the reports of the usage she has undergone are dreadful—brutal violence, it is stated, having been resorted to, so early as the third week after the marriage, by the husband.—*Durham Chronicle.*

"Delicate Affair."—We have to express our deep regret, that a paragraph under this heading, and alluding to the reported differences between —— Esq. and his wife, should have been inserted in our paper of last week. We have ascertained, and are most ready to avow, that our correspondent has been misinformed on the subject, and that none of the aggravated circumstances stated in the paragraph referred to have any foundation whatever, except in the wicked imagination of the party who invented them.—*Durham Chronicle.*

THE ROTHBURY UNION.

On Tuesday, April 6, the Board of Guardians passed two resolutions, of which we give a copy:—

"1. That the statement signed by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Clerk, and Relieving Officer, being correct, the charge of falsehood brought against it by the Rev. Mr. Harcourt is consequently unfounded.

"2. That the language made use of by the Rev. Mr. Harcourt, at the meeting of this Board, on the 10th of March, was highly unbecoming. An apology is therefore due from him to the Board of Guardians and the Clerk."

SUICIDE OF THE RELIEVING OFFICER.

On Monday, April 12, an inquest was held before Thos. Adams Russell, Esq., at Low Trewhitt, on the body of Mr. Henry Boag, the Relieving Officer of the Rothbury Union. From the evidence given, it appeared that the persecution which he has suffered had preyed much upon his mind; and the threats which had repeatedly been used, that he would be watched, and, if possible, punished, had produced such an impression on him, that on the night of Tuesday, the 6th instant, after there had been a very stormy meeting of the Board, he had never slept, but wandered about his room in great distress. The next day he had gone to Elsdon, in the performance of his duties, when he saw the Archdeacon of Northumberland, of whose good feelings he afterwards expressed himself very warmly. On his

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return from thence, he wrote a long letter to the Clerk of the Union, the greatest part of which we print as follows:—

"MY DEAR SIR,—I do not see how I can get out of this business. The Rector and Charlton will appear against me. Mr. Pye owns with having got the money up to the 25th of December, 1839. It appears that I have carried the sum on in my books for three quarters more. I declare to my Maker that I was not conscious of it. The way we keep the books one never can see how the money stands. I declare I am innocent. The only thing I regret is in leaving my poor little children: I fear they may become chargeable to the township. Give my regards to Sir John Walsham, Mr. Orde, and all my friends. I am sure Sir John and Mr. Orde would do me justice, but I cannot see how they can get me through: I am confident if it was in their power they would do it. My eldest daughter is 18 years old, and therefore can do for herself: the boy about 13 years: the next girl goes to her aunt at Warkworth, where she will be well off: the next is a darling little clever boy, six years old: the next about three years, but, poor little fellow, he is not right in his mind: the youngest, one and one-half years. I am sure Wm. Pringle, of Snitter, will do something for them. I hope some other friends will assist them. All the furniture in my house belongs to my poor mother, except a mahogany table in the parlour, which belongs to Mrs. Steward, of Rothbury. I am confident Mr James Storey will endeavour to get situations for my family who can do anything. Mr. Weallans, also, I am sure will help them. If you could think of any one else, they would feel obliged to you; but I need not name that to you, for I am sure you will do what you can. If Harcourt stays at Rothbury, you had better quit the Union, for he will do you an injury if he can. I leave this world without any ill-feeling to any one except Harcourt, who is the greatest brute I ever met with. You have been one of the best friends I ever met with. I regret leaving Wm. Forster and his brother, and MANY, MANY DEAR FRIENDS. I will pass quietly out of this world I am writing in as good spirits as ever I did in my life. I am perfectly reconciled to my fate. I have nothing to fear—I expect I am a good Christian. I have paid Charlton of Todhills £2 2s. too much: you will see Mrs. Pye's acknowledgment. I will leave every thing in the Union chest that I have. You will find the accounts right up to the 25th of March. I see no use in undergoing the trial on Monday; because all I can say or do is, that it was a perfect mistake on my part—not intentional—I am perfectly innocent. I would not on any account have HARCOURT, or THOMPSON the curate, to bury me: I do not care where I am buried. I am perfectly happy, and, I trust, prepared to die. I will trust to you and William Forster to look after the furniture belonging to my mother. I am glad my brother is out of the way. "I am, my dear Mr. Woodman,

"Very sincerely yours,

"HENRY BOAG.

"I have slept as sound as a top all last night.—H. B."

On Thursday morning, April 8, he added some unconnected sentences to this letter—made some arrangements—left his home on horseback about two in the afternoon, and was seen to look earnestly back to it. He left his home at Warton—went to two or three places—till, about six in the evening, he went to a hovel upon Low Trewhitt estate, (which estate was recently his own property, and from whence he could look down upon the house where he spent the greatest part of his life); and he then swallowed an ounce of laudanum, and wrote in pencil, upon the back of a letter, the following words.—

"I have taken about a wine-glass of laudanum at the shed on Trewhitt Moor. God bless you all, except the Rector and George Selby Thompson. It is getting nearly dark. I die at peace with all mankind except the above. I will lay down quietly to sleep: it's so dark I cannot see to write. God bless you all. Good night."

He had afterwards strangled himself with a rope fastened to the lintel. The jury found a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

The remains of the deceased were interred on Tuesday, April 13, at Alnham church, when they were accompanied to their last resting-place by a great number of the Guardians of the Union and his other friends, who voluntarily attended to testify the respect they entertained for him who, while living, alike in his prosperous days as in adversity, had gained and preserved the good opinion of all who knew him, whether rich or poor; for, except two or three individuals, who displayed such a bitter hostility to him, we are sure he had not an enemy.

The melancholy death of Mr. Boag, relieving officer of the Rothbury Union, has cast a gloom of the deepest shade, not only over the neighbourhood where he so long lived, but over a large portion of the county of Northumberland. The agitation of the public mind, produced by the sad catastrophe, is great. Circumstances surround his premature grave, and stand forth in such hideous deformity, that for the sake of human nature, the writer will, while he mourns with thousands, draw around them a veil. The eye of an all-seeing God is upon them. HE will repay—"for vengeance is mine, saith the Lord." In offering through the public press a tribute of respect to the memory of a departed friend, the fiercer passions of our nature shall be controlled in the midst of a popular indignation. Let the duty be mine to visit the resting-place of Henry Boag, and there write his epitaph. The heart that sympathized so often in the misfortunes of others, sank, alas! beneath his own. Not that his friends forsook him: but the recollection of brighter days—a retrospect of these, from a position which subjected him to the persecution of an implacable foe, was too much for him to bear. With a disposition, kind, generous, good-natured, and humane, he closed his eyes for ever upon this transitory world in peace with all—"*save two.*" The public voice is pronouncing *their* names in accents loud and deep. He has gone to his Judge—they will have to follow; and at the bar of that Judge, their cause will be impartially decided. Peace to his memory!

Nor farther seek his merits to disclose,
Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode:
There they alike in trembling hope repose,
The bosom of his Father and his God.

S. D.

CLAIM TO THE EARLDOM OF PERTH.

THE Earldom of Perth having once more come before the public, we inserted, on the 3d inst., a few details in connection with the case of Mr. Thomas Drummond, of Pensher, in this county, pitman, who conceives himself to be the rightful heir. Our paragraph was copied into the *Globe*, *Morning Chronicle*, *Times*, and various other papers; and we have since received two letters on the subject—one from a London solicitor, who "feels that he owes it to the profession to which he belongs, not to allow poverty to stand in the way of justice," and is ready to offer Mr. T. Drummond "such assistance as his case may deserve"—the other from the Duc de Melfort, also a claimant, and whose letter we proceed to give.

16, Place Vendome, Paris, April 10, 1841.

MR. EDITOR,—I find in the *Globe* of the 7th inst., a paragraph taken from the *Gateshead Observer*, alluding to the claim of the Duc de Melfort to the Earldom of Perth.

I must request of you to state, that the Duc de Melfort claims no estates whatever, but merely the dormant Earldom of Perth, as heir-male general of the family, he being the great-great-grandson, by his second marriage, of John Drummond, Earl and Duke of Melfort, second son of James, third Earl of Perth.

The estates were restored (in fee simple) in 1785, to James Drummond, afterwards Baron Perth, great grandson of John Drummond, Earl and Duke of Melfort's first marriage, he being the nearest male heir of Lord John Drummond, in whom the estates became forfeited in 1746; and the said Baron Perth disposed (which the Act of Parliament entitled him to do) most naturally of his property, in favour of his only daughter, who is the female chief of the family, and who would be Countess of Perth, were it a female Peerage: (the limitation is to heirs-male whatsoever).

The official report of the death of James Drummond, third Duke of Perth, (who never was married, and from whom it is stated Mr. Thomas Drummond is descended,) on board the French frigate the *Bellone*, in May, 1746, is to be found at the Ministere de la Marine, in the reports of the Ordonnateur en Chef at Nantes to the Ministre de la Marine dated the 7th of June, 1746.

Lord John Drummond, on the death of his brother, assumed the title of Duke of Perth, until his death in 1747. He was succeeded by his uncle John, who died in 1757; and this second-named John was succeeded by his brother Edward, last male descendant of the fourth Earl of Perth, who was styled Duke of Perth until his death in 1760—(see various military commissions given by the King of France, at the Ministere de la Guerre, and the Archives de l'Etat Civil, in Paris,)—when the representation of the family reverted to James Drummond, of Lundin, grandson of the Earl of Melfort's first marriage, who was served heir to the Earls of Perth in Edinburgh, in 1766, and assumed the title of the Earl of Perth, which had been dormant since the death of the fourth Earl of Perth, on the 11th of May, 1716; to which title he was undoubtedly entitled, he being chief male of the family.

Besides, the case of Mr. Thomas Drummond must and will be decided by the House of Lords, as the Duc de Melfort, to be enabled to succeed to his great-great-grand-uncle, the fourth Earl of Perth, (the last Peer who voted,) must prove the decease of all persons having a prior claim. G. DRUMMOND, DUC DE MELFORT.

The Editor of the *Gateshead Observer*, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Angleterre.

We feel much pleasure in affording the Duc de Melfort an opportunity of laying his claims to the Earldom of Perth before the public of this neighbourhood, particularly as we do not find them disagreeing with the statements of Thomas Drummond, save on the particular point on which the whole case hinges, viz., whether James, the third Duke of Perth, died on board ship unmarried, as is believed by the Duc de Melfort, or whether he did not marry at Houghton-le-Spring, in the year 1749, and die at Biddick, (both places in this county,) in June, 1782, leaving male issue, from whom the

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claimant, Thomas, is descended. We know nothing of the case, it is only right to say, except from the statements of the parties.

INSTITUTION FOR TRAINING SERVANTS.

THE Subscribers and Friends of the above are respectfully informed that the CELEBRATION of the ANNIVERSARY is intended to take place at the HOUSE, Windmill-hills, on Tuesday next, April 15, at 12 o'clock.

A TABLE will be provided for the SALE OF WORK, to assist the Funds.

Any Lady desirous of contributing Work or Confectionary will please to send them, previous to the day of Sale, to the House, or to any of the Ladies of the Committee.

N.B. The Subscriptions will then be received.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED MARCH, 1841.
CHARLES SMITH, ESQ., CHAIRMAN.
THOMAS WILSON, ESQ., DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.
J. D. WEATHERLEY, ESQ., TREASURER.
W. H. BROCKETT, ESQ., HONORARY SECRETARY.
THOMAS GILLESPY, JUN., ESQ.,
REPRESENTATIVE in the COMMITTEE of the GENERAL SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY, London.

INDIVIDUAL SHIPOWNERS, or others, Subscribers of not less than 10s. 6d. per annum, are eligible as Members of the Society, and are respectfully requested to communicate their names to any of the Officers above mentioned.

Newcastle upon Tyne, April 6th, 1841.

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS towards the recent REPAIRS of ST. MARY'S CHURCH, GATESHEAD.

The Venerable Archdeacon Thorp.....	£10	0	0
William Peareth, Esq.....	20	0	0
Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P.....	10	0	0
Mr. Henry Smith (second subscription)....	5	0	0
Mr. Thomas Rawling	1	0	0
Mr. James Clephan	0	10	0
Mr. Brett.....	0	10	0
Mr. P. Wheatley	0	10	0

COACHES TO AND FROM THE GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND RAILWAY.

THE Public are respectfully informed that arrangements have been made with the Directors to establish a Coach communication to and from the Railway Trains at Darlington.

The times of starting will, for the present, be as under:—

FROM NEWCASTLE.	FROM DARLINGTON.
¼ before 4, Morning.	½ past 8, Morning.
7,	10, Mail.
10,	¼ past 10,
½ past 11, Mail.	¼ past 12,
½ past 1, Afternoon.	5, Afternoon.
8, Evening.	½ past 8, Evening.

The Mail passes through to Edinburgh at 1. 22 p.m.

UNION, by Berwick to Edinbro' ..... 7 Morning.
HIGHFLYER, by Kelso, do. ..... 8 "
CHEVY CHASE, by Jedburgh, do.... 8 "
TELEGRAPH, to Harrogate, Leeds, &c. 7 "
LORD EXMOUTH, to Barnard Castle, Lancaster, &c.....12 Noon.

Performed by JAMES RADFORD, THOMAS LOUGH, THOMAS HOULT, JOHN BRODIE & Co.

Newcastle, 7th April, 1841.

THE SECRET OF ST. ANDREW'S DISCOVERED.

THE Puseyite proceedings in the church of St. Andrew's, Newcastle, having, for some time past, produced not less wonderment than displeasure amongst the church-going portion of the parishioners, we feel deeply indebted to our "*Leazes Crescent*" correspondent, "AMICUS ECCLESIÆ," for enabling us to dispel the mystery in which the ultra-pious performances of the parson have been so long involved.

Our correspondent, it seems, by mere accident, (but how many important discoveries are indebted to accident!) found out, within these few days, the "grand secret" of St. Andrew's.

"Having but little business of my own to attend to," says he, "I often busy myself by trying to assign reasons for, and to reconcile, the actions of others. I have never, however, been able to assign any tangible reason for the apparently disinterested conduct of our officiating priest (who, be it remembered, is but a curate,) in expending a considerable sum of money in adorning and beautifying (as it is called) the chancel of St. Andrew's church, *by the pulling down of old family-pews*, and erecting stalls in their stead, and loading the venerable altar with a pair of massive brazen candlesticks, and many similar acts, too numerous to mention. The other day, however, I happened to be looking into *Bourne's History of Newcastle*, when, I flatter myself, I at length solved the difficulty, and dispelled all doubt about the matter; and as I know some curiosity has been excited in the parish, to know the why and the wherefore, I will, through your permission, proceed to give the result of my discovery. In that book, (Bourne, p. 42,) there is an account of the famous indulgence granted in the reign of King Richard the Second, 1392, by which an indulgence or pardon for forty days was granted to every one who should contribute towards the repairing or beautifying of the church of St. Andrew's, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne—the grant declaring, that, whoever offers or lends to the chapel of the Holy Trinity, in the northern part of the same church, either gold, silver, vestments, books, chalices, or any other ornaments which are wanting to the aforesaid chapel, or altar, or image, or shall fall down on his knees before the image of the Holy Trinity aforesaid, shall, *as often as* they perform those things, or any of the things aforesaid, have the benefit of *a forty days' indulgence!* Now, Sir, which of us, living in St. Andrew's parish, having taken the most casual notice of what has been going on there—of the alterations which have been made in the parish church—and above all, which of us, who has at all attended to the doctrines which have lately emanated from the pulpit, (so nicely balanced, as they have been, by a subtle skill, between an open confession of the doctrines of Popery, and a lukewarm denunciation of the mischievous tendency of the tenets of the Church of Rome,)—which of us, I say, who has had his eyes and ears open, and having had his attention called to the above celebrated indulgence, but will at once, with me, be able to account for the apparently useless outlay of money, in thus adorning St. Andrew's church, and loading its altar with candlesticks? Who, after this, can doubt, that our worthy curate has done this under the idea, and with the hope, that he thereby has laid up for himself a full store of such indulgences?"

We agree entirely with our correspondent, and we are confirmed in the opinion by a reference we have made to a Latin copy of the indulgence, which was luckily preserved by Dr. Ellison, in his MS. collections. We there find, in addition to the various articles quoted by Bourne, that "lampades luminarum" would be most acceptable offerings upon the altar of St. Andrew's—a piece of candlestick-information of the deepest importance, we consider, to the frequenters of that church.

After this revelation of the "pious purposes" of the Puseyite parson of St. Andrew's, we hope we shall hear no more of dissension in the parish. The indulgences to that favoured church have been numerous; and amongst others, curiously enough, there is one from a Bishop of Durham, dated at Gateshead, a few years earlier than that from which our correspondent has quoted.

The indulgence, it must be remembered, is not confined to the clergy. The "benefit" derivable from it may be enjoyed by the laity as well as the clergy. The "path of duty" is now pointed out: the parson is

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excused, and the parishioners are now possessed of the grand secret by which the churches, as well as congregations, of the olden time, were enlightened and improved.

The annual vestry meeting at Wallsend, took place on Easter Monday. The meeting was held at the usual time (12 o'clock); and the parson (our old friend) not being present, the meeting voted Geo. Johnson, Esq., of Willington, into the chair, when the churchwardens' accounts were read over and scrutinized. Amongst the items there appeared a large charge for wine, which was complained of by several ratepayers—whose opposition, however, was smoothed down by an admission from the clerk, that he had, perhaps, with friends in the vestry, consumed about half-a-dozen bottles, for which he would pay. Another charge for 55lbs of candles was objected to as very heavy, when it appeared that it included wax candles for Puseyite decorations for the altar-table. Another charge for raising the altar was also objected to, as having been done without the consent of the churchwardens. The latter charge was not allowed, but a subscription was entered into to re-imburse the parson his outlay. An inquiry was then made whether the parish clerk had paid the rent which was ordered last Easter to be paid for the house and ground belonging the parish now in his possession; and on its being found that no rent had been paid, it was moved that the stone, with the inscription, specifying the purpose for which the property was bequeathed to the parish, and which the clerk had removed so as to be invisible, should be replaced in a conspicuous place in front of the building. At this stage of the business, (viz., about an hour and a half after the meeting had commenced,) the parson entered. He had been preaching to the Odd-Fellows, and had evidently been inoculated with the "oddity" of that "order," for he immediately insisted upon Mr. Johnson's leaving the chair, declaring that no man should usurp his authority. Mr. Johnson courteously complied; when the clerical chairman told a worthy coalowner present, that he should be brought up for something he had said against his reverence; but the parishioner, instead of begging forgiveness, seemed quite ready and able to give the parson "a Rowland for his Oliver." The resolution about the stone was then put and unanimously carried. Messrs. Edward Grace and Charles Weatherley were elected churchwardens, and the meeting adjourned.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

PATRON.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Durham.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Ravensworth	Robert Ingham, Esq., M.P.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Howick, M.P.	Chas. Wm. Bigge, Esq.
Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P.	Charles John Bigge, Esq.
Hon. T. H. Liddell	T. E. Headlam, Esq., M.D.
Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart.	Armorer Donkin, Esq.
William Ord, Esq., M.P.	John Clayton, Esq.
J. Hodgson Hinde, Esq., M.P.	Rev. William Turner.
William Hutt, Esq., M.P.	John Buddle, Esq.
Chris. Blackett, Esq., M.P.	

The Committee beg to announce that the Society's Annual Exhibition of the Works of Modern Arts, will be opened in July next, when, from the arrangements made, they expect that a large Collection of Works of Art, of a high Character will be offered for the Inspection of the Members and the Public.

The Committee intend to hold, in connection with the Exhibition,

AN ART-UNION,

On the Plan so successfully adopted in London and Edinburgh.

The Names of Subscribers will be received by John Anderson, Esq., the Treasurer, at the Bank of Messrs. Lambton & Co.; Mr. Proctor, at the Society's Rooms, Market-street; Mr. E. Charnley, Bookseller, Bigg-market; Messrs. Currie & Bowman, Book and Printsellers, Collingwood-street; Mr. Fenwick Loraine, Bookseller, Grey-street; Messrs. Finlay & Charlton, Booksellers, Pilgrim-street; Mr. M. A. Richardson, Bookseller, Blackett street; Messrs. E. & T. Bruce, Grey-street; Mr. T. Horn, Bookseller, Market-street; Mr. W. S. Pringle, Bookseller, Collingwood-street; Mr. Heaton, Bookseller, Sandhill, Newcastle; and Mr. George Watson, Bookseller, Gateshead.

T. M. GREENHOW, W. L. HARLE, } Secretaries.

Society's Rooms, Market-street,
7th April, 1841.

THE NEWCASTLE DUTIES.

We were last week happy to announce the relinquishment of the proposed quay and town dues on iron, and a reduction in the thorough toll on flour, by the committee of the Newcastle Corporation, to whom the remonstrances of the iron and flour trade had been addressed. The schedules, as amended, being now published, we find, on slightly perusing them, that other alterations than those we mentioned in our last number, have been made; and, therefore, we have prepared a comparative table, to show the duties proposed, by each edition of the schedules, on the articles on which a difference appears:—

DUTIES BY THE SCHEDULES AS INTRODUCED.	£	s.	d.
THOROUGH TOLL.			
Flour, per two-horse cart load ..	0	0	2
QUAY AND TOWN DUES, COASTWISE OR FOREIGN.			
Iron, bar, per ton.....	0	0	4
——, pig, per ton.....	0	0	2
QUAY AND TOWN DUES, FOREIGN ONLY.			
Arsenic, per cwt.....	0	0	0½
Cranberries, per gallon	0	0	0½
Hides, dry, per cwt.	0	0	0½
——, wet, per cwt.	0	0	0½
Old rope, per ton.....	0	0	4
Silk, raw or thrown, per cwt.* ..	0	0	2
Skins, calf and kid, per cwt....	0	0	0½
QUAYSIDE TOLL.			
Flour or meal, sack or barrel....	0	0	0½

DUTIES BY THE SCHEDULE AS AMENDED.	£	s.	d.
THOROUGH TOLL.			
Flour, if paid by cart-load.....	0	0	2
——, if by sack	0	0	0½
, The payer to have his option.			
QUAY AND TOWN DUES, COASTWISE OR FOREIGN.			
Iron, bar or pig	0	0	0
QUAY AND TOWN DUES, FOREIGN ONLY.			
Arsenic, per cwt.....	0	0	0½
Cranberries, per 8 gallons.....	0	0	1
Hides, dry, per ton	0	0	6
——, wet, per ton	0	0	4
Old rope, per ton.....	0	0	3
Silk, raw or thrown, per cwt.* ..	0	2	0
Skins, calf and kip, dry, per ton..	0	0	8
——, wet, per ton..	0	0	6
QUAYSIDE TOLL.			
Flour or meal, sack or barrel ..	0	0	0½

* This, we suppose, must have been an error in the schedule as introduced.

The Quayside toll on flour, it will be seen, has been doubled—probably as a set-off against the reduction of the thorough-toll on that article. It would have been a wiser and more generous improvement, to have assimilated these dues, by making the toll, whether by land or water, only a farthing per sack.

A clause in the Bill, enabling the Council to *extend*, *contract*, or *vary* the line on which the tolls are to be taken, is worthy of attention by the inhabitants of the

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borough of Newcastle—especially as there does not seem a right of appeal against any extensions or contractions which future Councils may resolve upon.

The whole system of tolls is bad—shockingly bad. We lament to see it so pertinaciously adhered to by the Council, because we firmly believe that every hour during which imposts are continued in the port of Newcastle, from which rival towns and districts are free, is fraught with danger the most imminent to the general welfare of its inhabitants.

The Guardians of the Newcastle Union have acted as became them. They have resolved, that they will not gratuitously introduce the Church-Rate question into the annual elections of the Union—that they will exclude this source of bitterness until it be thrust upon them (if thrust upon them it ever be) by the indiscretion of the Legislature. Already the obnoxious impost creates much exasperation in the public mind; and the Guardians have acted wisely in crushing this attempt to increase divisions and animosities in society, by the appointment of a salaried chaplain, to be paid out of the poor-rates. We stated, in our paper of last week, that notice of motion had been given for the 16th inst. (yesterday); and we have now the pleasure of recording, that the motion was successfully met by an amendment, to the effect that the proposal be taken into consideration on that day six months. The amendment was carried by a majority of 19 against 10. Messrs. G. Inness, William Kirton, W. D. Hay, M. S. Dodds, J. Hopper, R. Hopper, J. D. Weatherley, W. Dunlop, H. Ridley, J. L. Angas, James Calbreath, J. Huntley, D. H. Wilson, W. Proctor, E. Loraine, M. Dunn, John Beckinton, jun., William Ryle, and R. P. Philipson, voted for the amendment. Messrs. H. Ingledew, John Nesham, John Waller, John Gardener, W. Brown, E. Story, R. Clark, R. Gilchrist, Jasper Richardson, and A. G. Gray, voted against the amendment. Mr. William Lee was present, but declined voting.

A handsome marble monument (obtained by subscription) to the memory of Mr. James Charlton, late vestry-clerk and master of the anchorage school in this borough, has been executed by Mr. Craggs, of High-street, and may be seen at his show-room. As a work of art, it is highly creditable to our neighbour; and as a testimonial to a meritorious townsman, most appropriate.

At the monthly meeting of the North of England Society for the Promotion of the Fine Arts, on Thursday evening, April 13, Mr. H. L. Pattinson delivered a lecture on the Daguerreotype, (Mr. Matthew Wheatley, jun., in the chair). To add still more to the interest of the evening, Dr. Ure, who is at present engaged in delivering a course of lectures in Newcastle, favoured the meeting with several observations on the Daguerreotype. A numerous collection of the drawings may now be seen by the public in the Society's rooms.

A meeting of the shareholders in the London, Newcastle, and South Shields Shipping Company, was held at the George and Vulture tavern, George-yard, London, on Tuesday last, "to receive a report from a committee appointed to inspect the affairs of the undertaking." We learn from the *Shipping Gazette* that a discussion took place on the propriety of permitting "gentlemen of the press" to be present—one or more "chiels" being in attendance, it seems, for the purpose of "takin' notes." The question was eventually put to the vote, and the reporters were excluded by a majority of 26 to 21.

The churchwardens elected at St. Mary's, in this borough, on Easter Tuesday, were:—Mr. Cummins (the Rector's), Mr. John Lister, sen. (re-elected), Mr. G. J. Kenmir, and Mr. William Spencer. Messrs. John Greene, Joseph Robson, and David Colling, were elected to the "Four-and-Twenty," in the room of Messrs. Jonathan Colling, Joseph Willis, and James Easton, deceased.—The churchwardens and their friends afterwards dined at Mr. Davidson's, the Black Bull, where they were entertained to their entire satisfaction. The duties of the chair were ably and pleasantly discharged by the Rector's churchwarden, Mr. Cummins. During the evening, a liberal subscription was made towards the repairs and alterations of St. Mary's church. Mr. John Barras and Mr. John Greene each gave a third donation of £5. Second donations were given by various gentlemen, as follows:—The Rev. J. Davies, rector, £10 10s.; Messrs. N. Andrews, Joseph Robson, and Thomas Cummins, £5 each; Messrs. W. G. Greene and Robert Lister, £1 1s. each; and Mr. John Lister, jun., £1. Mr. George Sowerby gave £5; and Mr. John Angus, 5s.

Mr. James Smith and Mr. Thomas Ferguson were elected Churchwardens of Gateshead Fell, at St. John's church, on Easter Monday last. In the evening, the Rector, Churchwardens, and several friends, dined together at Mr. Hetherington's, (Thomas Sowerby, Esq., in the chair). The dinner and wines were excellent, and the entertainment most agreeable, Messrs. Ferry, Dawson, and Richardson favouring the company with many fine specimens of their musical talents.

The climbing-boys of Newcastle and Gateshead were provided with a comfortable dinner, on Easter Tuesday, at Mr. Hudspeth's, Adelaide hotel, Newcastle. Twenty-six were present, with the approbation of their masters. Several gentlemen attended, and were much gratified with the general appearance of the boys, and the improvement some of them had made in reading and general information, by availing themselves of the school which has been for some time opened on Saturday afternoons, for their instruction, under the management of Mr. Urwin.

The canine population of Gateshead has been numbered within the last few days; and the result of the census is, that there are no less than 520 dogs in this borough! One of these brutes was observed, the other day, to make a spring, without any apparent motive, against the window of a dwelling-house, and break a square of glass with its paws! This dog is supposed to have been a *glazier's*.

The annual meeting in St. Andrew's vestry-room, Newcastle, for the election of churchwardens, was held on Easter Monday, at noon. The chair was taken by the Rev. William Dodd, the perpetual curate of the parish; and (after Mr. John Brown had consented to act as vestry-clerk) the rev. gentleman commenced the business of the day by electing Mr. Alexander George Gray to the office of vicar's churchwarden. This, he stated, he did with the authority of the vicar; but it was also intimated, in another quarter, that under the altered state of the law, the perpetual curate had the right of election. The question was mooted, whether the custom of the parish really was for the vicar to choose a churchwarden, independently of the parishioners. Some were of opinion that custom was conclusive in his favour, and the minutes of the vestry were cited in proof of this position. Others, however, contended, that although the minutes might not specify the fact, it had undoubtedly occurred, on many occasions, that the vicar only chose a churchwarden from the number chosen by the vestry; and in corroboration of this view of the case, Mr. Rowland Hodge stated, that he was elected vicar's churchwarden thirty years ago, but it was not until he had first been chosen by the vestry. The rev. chairman observed, that he had no wish to encroach upon the rights of the ratepayers, neither did he believe that they had any desire to encroach upon his. If it was thought an encroachment, that he should elect a churchwarden, the remedy was by an appeal to the archdeacon.—The meeting now passed to the election of three churchwardens. There was a brief discussion whether a churchwarden should first be elected for Jesmond (or Fenham), and the Chairman put the question to a show of hands. The decision was, that the three churchwardens should be elected for the whole parish, irrespective of any distinction as to Jesmond or Fenham. Seven gentlemen were nominated, and a poll taken, which was attended with the following result:—Messrs. Plummer, Jackson, and Palmer, were declared duly elected. Mr. John Jobling, when the business of the day was at an end, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Dodd, which was unanimously agreed to.—[In the course of the meeting, a suggestion was made, that the churchwardens should be chosen from persons who had served the office of overseer. We cannot concur in this suggestion. We would not exclude ex-overseers, neither would we limit the ratepayers to those gentlemen. We would not take cognizance at all of the circumstance, whether an individual had or had not served the office of overseer. It is dangerous to observe any such distinctions. It is thus that *customs* grow up which narrow the rights of the public; and vestry and other meetings would do well to avoid all distinctions which restrict their franchises. We have no doubt that in St. Andrew's, as in many other parishes, the vicar had anciently no power to choose a churchwarden who had not pre-

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viously passed the ordeal of popular election. The present privilege has sprung from custom—a custom arising out of popular negligence.]—J. S. Lotherington, Esq., presided at the churchwardens' dinner in the afternoon, and the party had the pleasure of the Vicar's company.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN ANIMAL CHEMISTRY.—The principles fibrin and albumen, which play so important a part in the constitution of the animal solids, are now, on the authority of Liebig, stated to be identical. M. Denis has communicated a letter to the Academy of Sciences, in which Liebig states that he has been able to dissolve fibrin by a moderate heat in a saturated solution of nitre, and that the fluid has all the properties of solution of albumen.—*Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.*

EMIGRATION OF SHIP CARPENTERS.—We hear that upwards of forty operative ship-carpenters, allured by the temptations of *High Wages* and *Cheap Food*, have agreed to emigrate from Sunderland to Miramichi. They are to sail on Monday. 'Tis thus the Timber Duties and Corn Laws drive out our artizans and transplant our staple manufacture. With cheap timber and cheap bread, Sunderland could supply ships for half the mercantile marine of the United Kingdom, and undersell foreigners in their own ports.—*Sunderland Herald.*

The ratepayers of St. Nicholas, Newcastle, met in vestry, on Easter Tuesday. The new Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Coxe, took the chair, and said, that he appeared before them, on this occasion, as a stranger amongst strangers. He hoped soon to exchange this character for that of a friend amongst friends. (Applause.) The rev. gentleman proceeded to offer a few hints to his parishioners, too well justified, we fear, by the temper of previous vestry-meetings. Warm words, he observed, called forth a warm reply, which was followed by a warmer rejoinder; and afterwards, even the parties who were offended by those angry expressions, did not feel more hurt and annoyed than the persons who uttered them. (Applause.) He trusted that the present meeting would pass over in perfect harmony.——The ratepayers proceeded to the nomination of churchwardens; and Messrs. John Renwick, William Robson, John Waller, Martin James Burn, John Wilson, and Thomas Bell, were severally proposed. Mr. J. T. Hoyle also nominated Mr. Henry Ingledew, but that gentleman declined to stand, his duties as Chairman of the Board of Guardians, &c., requiring, for their efficient discharge, all the time that he could possibly devote to the public service. Before the votes were taken, Mr. Ingledew observed, but without any desire to restrict the freedom of his fellow-parishioners, that it was customary to re-elect the junior churchwardens of the preceding year, that they might act as the tutors, so to speak, of their colleagues. It was a custom which worked well, and he therefore recommended it to the consideration of the meeting. Mr. Pace said, that it might be a custom, but it was certainly not an invariable one; for he was once junior churchwarden himself, and was not re-elected. (Laughter.) Mr. Joseph Watson remarked, that Mr. Ingledew's suggestion was not applicable on the present occasion: all the candidates (so we understood Mr. W. to say) had served the office of churchwarden, and the two juniors, therefore, did not possess any peculiar eligibility. (Applause.) The votes were now taken, and the poll, at its close, stood as follows:—

Mr. Thomas Bell	103
Mr. William Robson (junior of 1840-41)	74
Mr. John Waller (ditto)	72
Mr. Martin James Burn	69
Mr. John Wilson	69
Mr. John Renwick	63

Four being the number to be elected, it devolved upon the Vicar to give a casting vote to Mr. Burn or Mr. Wilson. The rev. gentleman said, that he was thus placed in rather an unpleasant situation, on the very first occasion of his attendance at a meeting of his parishioners. If they would not think it a puerile proceeding, he would relieve himself from the difficulty, by putting the two names into a hat, and deciding by lot. (Applause and laughter.) Acting on this proposal, the Vicar drew the name of Mr. Wilson, and declared him, in common with Messrs. Bell, Robson, and Waller, duly elected. "It cannot be said," he remarked, "that Mr. Wilson is the Vicar's Churchwarden: he is the Churchwarden of the Hat." (Great laughter.)——Mr. Ingledew now stated, that the next business of the meeting was to elect a Select Vestry. It was not required by law that such an election should take place: the Poor Law Amendment Act had superseded the necessity. But it had been found beneficial in practice to retain a vestry, to act as the assistants and advisers of the overseers and board of guardians. He would therefore move, that twenty ratepayers be elected, to form the select vestry. Mr. Joseph Watson seconded the motion, and it was carried *nem. con.* Mr. Scott, the vestry clerk, said that it was usual, before the election, to read over the names of the retiring vestry, with the number of meetings which each member had attended. The list was as follows:—

VESTRYMEN.			
Mr. Henry Ingledew	14	Mr. Thomas Dobson	5
Mr. William Nesham	13	Mr. D. L. Potts	3
Mr. John Garret	10	Mr. Thomas Richardson	3
Mr. Michael Hogg	9	Mr. Joseph Watson	2
Mr. Thomas Marshall	8	Mr. John Renwick	2
Mr. Samuel Stokoe, jun.	8	Mr. William Gibson	2
Mr. Richard Kirk	8	Mr. Thomas Fordyce	2
Mr. John Beach	7	Mr. J. J. Bates	1
Mr. William Inness	7	Mr. William Cowan	1
Mr. R. M. Allan	6	Mr. James Glendining	0
CHURCHWARDENS.		OVERSEERS.	
Mr. Thomas White	15	Mr. William Inness	15
Mr. James Wright	14	Mr. Benjamin Wilson	12
Mr. William Robson	12	Mr. M. J. Burn	10
Mr. John Waller	9	Mr. Thomas Bell	8

The following were now proposed and elected:—Messrs. Samuel Stokoe, jun., M. J. Burn, Joseph Watson, William Nesham, William Gibson, Henry Ingledew, Michael Hogg, William Inness, Benjamin Wilson, William Winder, Thomas White, John Fenton, John Garret, John Renwick, John Richardson, Thomas Gray, John Henderson, Thomas Marshall, and Thomas Etridge Wilkinson. During the progress of nomination, Messrs. Pratt, James Wright, George Forster Smith, and Thomas Small, were proposed, but severally requested to be excused.——On the motion of Mr. Joseph Watson, seconded by Mr. Ingledew, Mr. George Forster Smith was elected to a vacancy in the "Four-and-Twenty." Some one observed that the chief duty of the situation consisted in the payment of half-a-crown a-year for wine. (Laughter.) The Vicar: That's a small price for the honour of the office. (Laughter.) The Vestry Clerk remarked, that the members of the Select Vestry were each liable to the same payment. "Yes," said Mr. Small, "and as the wine is for the Easter dinner, the money must be paid to-day." "I think Mr. Small had that fact in his mind," observed the Vicar, "when he declined to serve on the select vestry." (Laughter.)——Mr. Ingledew, as one of trustees of Moulton's Charity, submitted a statement of the receipts and expenditure to the meeting. In the past year, the receipts (including a balance in hand, at Easter, 1840, of upwards of £100,) were £287 0s. 8d. There was now a balance in hand of £18 7s. 10d.; but there was also due to the charity, and available for distribution, a further sum of £86.—[The disbursements of the past year included £14 1s., paid to poor communicants—an application of the charity, which, for obvious reasons, we think, is not to be approved.]—The Vicar, in allusion to this subject, said, that he parish, the understood, was mainly indebted to the worthy gentleman on his left (Mr. Ingledew) for its possession of the charity; and Mr. Ingledew then stated, that he received great assistance from his colleague in the trusteeship, Mr. Pace. ——The business of the meeting being closed, thanks were voted to the Vicar, for his services in the chair; and this tribute was paid to the rev. gentleman amidst the most cordial applause. Mr. Coxe acknowledged the honour, and thanked his parishioners for their demeanour throughout the whole of the day's business. He came to the meeting, he confessed, with some little anxiety on his mind. He was not positively frightened (laughter), but he was somewhat afraid. He had not been in the chair many minutes, however, before his fears all vanished; for he found that instead of a troublesome task, he was going to have a very pleasant occupation; and he was sure that they must all admit they had had a most agreeable meeting. (Applause.) The Vicar quitted the chair, and the ratepayers dispersed. [We congratulate Mr. Coxe and his parishioners on the prospect before them. Long may they continue to live together in harmony.] Mr. White presided at the Churchwardens' dinner in the afternoon, and the Vicar formed one of the party.

HANOVER-SQUARE CHAPEL.

THE REV. J. M'ALISTER will preach the ANNUAL SERMON in Aid of the CHOIR of Hanover-square Chapel, Newcastle, on SUNDAY MORNING, April 25, 1841; on which occasion, the members of the Choir, with

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the assistance of their Friends, will give a Selection of SACRED MUSIC, including a NEW ANTHEM.—The services to commence at ¼11 A.M.

BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE next EXHIBITION will be held in the VICTORIA ROOMS, High Friar-street, (entrance opposite the Chapel), on Friday, the 23d of April, when the same prizes will be awarded as at the meeting on the 1st May, 1840.

Non-members' Tickets, One Shilling each, to be had of Mr. RICHARDSON, Bookseller, corner of Blackett-street.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Merchants' Court, Guildhall, Newcastle, 8th April, 1841.

AT a Special General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held this day,

JOSEPH LAMB, Esq., V.P., in the Chair,

The following Letters from Sir MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, Bart., having been read, it was moved by W. H. Brockett, Esq., and carried, That the resignation of Sir M. W. Ridley, as President of the Chamber, be respectfully accepted; and that the letters addressed to the Chairman of the Committee and to the Members of the Society collectively, be published in the local newspapers.

Resolved,—On the motion of John Jobling, Esq., That the Secretary be directed to convene a General Meeting of the Chamber, on Wednesday, the 21st of April instant, for the purpose of electing a President; and in the event of such officer being chosen from the Vice-Presidents of the Institution, that a new Vice-President be elected also.

Blagdon, March 29th, 1841.

SIR,—I beg to forward you, through Mr. Grieveson, Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying communication, addressed to the Members of the Chamber, and to request, that, after communicating its contents to the Committee, you will lay it before the body of the Chamber at such convenient moment as you think proper.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,
MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY.

The Chairman of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Newcastle on-Tyne.

The Chamber is at liberty to make any use of my communication that it may think proper, provided that if any portion of it be made public, the whole may be so, and I should prefer that this were the case. M. W. R.

Blagdon, March 29, 1841.

GENTLEMEN,—It is not without regret or consideration that I feel compelled to address the members of the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle, on the position in which I find myself placed as President of that body, both by some recent proceedings of the Chamber, and likewise by some of an earlier date, originating with that Association as long ago as February, 1839.

The matters to which I allude are—

First.—The adoption of the Petition to Parliament, agreed at a General Meeting of the Chamber on *the 12th of March*, 1841.

Secondly.—The Resolutions passed at a General Meeting of that body, held on Feb. 14, 1839.

With respect to the first, I dissented, at the meeting of *March* 12, 1841, from the prayer of the petition, which, though it does not specifically allude to, virtually comprises the question of the Corn Laws.

Holding very different opinions and views on that question from those embodied in the petition, I found it necessary as Chairman of the day, to declare my dissent from its adoption, thus placing myself, as President of the Chamber, at variance with the expressed sentiments of a General Meeting of its members.

With respect to the second, I am ready to admit, that previous to *the 12th of March*, 1841, I was not aware that the Chamber had really taken up the question of the Corn Laws, or had ever passed such resolutions, as I now find printed in the Report of its proceedings, for the year 1839, and which proceedings were given, it appears, to the public, through the newspaper, "The *Newcastle Courant*, Feb. 15, 1839."

I was absent from the meeting of Feb. 14, 1839, and I certainly never read the resolutions passed by the Chamber that day, on the Corn Laws, either in the Report of the Chamber, or in any extract from the public papers, till *March* 12, 1841, on which day the petition above alluded to was adopted at a General Meeting, the President being the only dissentient.

Had I been aware how the Chamber had thus agitated the Corn Law question, I must have taken, at an earlier period, the course I now feel compelled to adopt, viz., that of tendering my resignation as its President.

My opinions on the Corn Law question being much at variance with the resolutions of February 14, 1839, and with those embraced by the petition of March 12, 1841, I feel it to be no more than respectful to the Chamber, and no less than due to myself to declare, that with every proper regard for the opinions of its members, I cannot tacitly consent to compromise my own, or by lending a silent sanction to resolutions or petitions from that body, embracing the repeal of the present Corn Laws, to promote indirectly the advancement of any such system, as would, in my opinion, be fatal to the best interests of this country.

It is, therefore, with every feeling of gratitude for the compliment paid me in electing me President of your Chamber, and for the kindness with which I have been always received since my election, that I beg to resign my office as President of your Society, and to withdraw my name from the list of your members. I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obliged humble Servant,
MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY.

To the Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

By order,
THOMAS GRIEVESON, Secretary.

A special general meeting of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, convened by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving "a communication from Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart.," was held in the Merchants' Court, Guildhall, on Thursday last, (Joseph Lamb, Esq., V.P. in the chair). The Chairman having read the "communication" (*see advertisement*,) which, it appeared, was the resignation of the worthy Baronet, not only as President but as a member of the Chamber, on account of the difference of opinion between himself and the Chamber on the subject of the Corn Laws, Mr. Wm. Armstrong, V.P., addressed the Chamber in terms of regret on the occasion, expressing reluctance in accepting the resignation, but, at the same time, justifying the course pursued by the Chamber—and moved a resolution in accordance with his observations, which was seconded by Mr. S. Reed. Mr. W. H. Brockett thought it was not necessary to go further than simply to accept the Hon. Bart.'s resignation. To enter into a defence of the Chamber, or to argue the point in difference with Sir M. W. Ridley, was quite unusual and unnecessary; and to express regret and reluctance in the acceptance of the resignation, was what he could not agree to. He therefore moved, as an amendment, "That the resignation of Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., as President of the Chamber, be respectfully accepted." Mr. Potter supported the original motion—Mr. Jobling the amendment. Mr. Hindhaugh recommended Mr. Armstrong to leave out all reference to the matter at issue between the Chamber and Sir Matthew. Mr. Pollard thought a simple acceptance of the resignation was most preferable. On the question being put, the amendment was carried by a large majority. A discussion then arose as to the publication of Sir M. W. Ridley's letter—some members thinking it should, some it should not be published—Sir Matthew himself in his letter having said, that if it were published at all, he hoped the whole would be published—this course he would prefer. Mr. Brockett, "in common justice to Sir Matthew," moved that it be published, along with the resolutions of the Chamber thereon; which motion was supported by Mr. Hindhaugh and Mr. Jobling, and carried; the Chairman being also of opinion that it should be published. Mr. Jobling thought the next duty was to fix a day for the appointment of a new President, but Mr. Potter thought it might safely be deferred until the next anniversary meeting, as probably nothing of importance requiring a President would occur. It was, however, eventually resolved that a meeting for the purpose should be held on the 27th inst.—APRIL 10.

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RAILWAY TRAVELLING ON THE COAST LINES
BETWEEN NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, SHIELDS, SUNDERLAND, AND DARLINGTON, BY WAY OF HARTLEPOOL AND STOCKTON.

THIS route, in conjunction with the Great North of England Railway at Darlington, forms an ENTIRE RAILWAY-COMMUNICATION with YORK, HULL, LEEDS, LONDON, and CARLISLE, &c.; and while occupying only about the same time as is required for the Horse Coaches between Newcastle and Darlington, effects a CONSIDERABLE SAVING of EXPENSE.

TRAVELLING NORTH, (ON WEEK DAYS.)

THE TRAINS LEAVE

York to Darlington.	Darlington to Stockton.	Stockton to Hartlepool.	Hartlepool to Sunderland.	Sunderland to Newcastle and Shields.	Newcastle to Carlisle.
..	..	..	..	..	5 30 A.M.
..	..	..	..	..	9 0 A.M.
..	6 0 A.M.	7 15 A.M.	8 0 A.M.	11 0 A.M.	12 0 Noon.
6 0 A.M.	8 45 A.M.	9 30 A.M.	10 30 A.M.	1 0 P.M.	2 30 P.M.
7 20 Mail.	10 15 A.M.	11 45 A.M.	12 45 P.M.	3 0 P.M.	5 0 P.M.
9 35 A.M.	1 0 P.M.	3 0 P.M.	4 0 P.M.	6 0 P.M.	6 30 P.M.
2 30 P.M.	..	..	..	7 0 P.M.	To Haydon Bridge only.
..	3 10 P.M.	5 0 P.M.	..	..	
6 0 P.M.	..	..	..	..	
..	6 40 P.M.	..	..	..	

☞ Trains leave Sunderland for Newcastle and Shields every hour, from seven o'clock in the morning till seven o'clock in the evening.

TRAVELLING SOUTH.

Newcastle and Shields to Sunderland.	Sunderland to Hartlepool.	Hartlepool to Stockton.	Stockton to Darlington.	Darlington to York.	York to Derby, Birmingham, and London.	York to Hull, Leeds, and the the West.
..	..	..	..	..	6 45 A.M.	..
..	..	..	..	5 45 A.M.	8 45 A.M.	7 45 A.M.
..	..	..	7 0 A.M.	8 0 A.M.	11 45 A.M.	11 0 A.M.
..	..	8 30 A.M.	..	..	..	..
7 0 A.M.	8 0 A.M.	10 15 A.M.*	11 15 A.M.	12 30 P.M.	3 15 P.M.†	3 20 P.M.
10 0 A.M.	10 45 A.M.	12 45 P.M.	2 10 P.M.	3 0 Mail.	6 19 P.M.	6 45 P.M.
12 0 Noon.	12 45 P.M.	3 45 P.M.	5 0 P.M.	6 0 P.M.	..	..
3 0 P.M.	4 0 P.M.	6 0 P.M.	7 0 P.M.	..	..	..

* On the arrival of this train at Stockton, a four-horse coach leaves for Whitby and Scarborough, and returns in time for the three o'clock P.M. train to Hartlepool, &c.

† For Derby only.

☞ Trains leave Newcastle and Shields for Sunderland every hour, from seven o'clock in the morning till seven o'clock in the evening.

At Haswell (a station between Stockton and Sunderland), passengers only will change carriages, but their luggage will not have to be removed.

Passengers can proceed by omnibus for the short distances between the stations of the "Brandling Junction" and "Sunderland and Durham" Railways at Sunderland, and of the "Stockton and Hartlepool" and "Stockton and Darlington" Railways at Stockton.—14th April, 1841.

OPENING OF THE GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND RAILWAY.

THE Public are informed, that the GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND RAILWAY will be OPENED from YORK to DARLINGTON, for Public Traffic, on WEDNESDAY, the 31st of March, 1841. The TRAINS will DEPART at the following Hours:—

FROM DARLINGTON TO YORK.

5·45 A.M.—Taking Passengers for London, Derby, Birmingham, Sheffield, and Manchester.

8 A.M.—Taking Passengers for London, Derby, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

12·30 P.M.—Taking Passengers for Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

3 P.M.—(MAIL.)—Taking Passengers for London, Derby, Leicester, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

6 P.M.—Taking Passengers to York.

FROM YORK TO DARLINGTON.

6 A.M.—Bringing Passengers from York.

7·20 A.M.—(MAIL.)—Bringing Passengers from London, Leicester, Derby, and Sheffield.

9·35 A.M.—Bringing Passengers from Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

2·30 P.M.—Bringing Passengers from Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby and Hull.

6 P.M.—Bringing Passengers from London, Birmingham, Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

☞ On SUNDAYS, *only* the MAIL TRAINS run.

Until further notice, Passengers will only be booked as far as York, where the Carriages are changed.

Until the 6th of April, 1841, the London Mail Trains will leave York at 8.15 A.M., instead of the hours stated in the Time Table.

FARES BETWEEN YORK AND DARLINGTON.

PASSENGERS.		CARRIAGES.		HORSES.		
1st class.	2d class.	2 wheels.	4 wheels.	1.	2.	3.
12s.	9s.	20s.	30s.	20s.	30s.	36s.

☞ Parties riding in their own Carriages, and Children under 7 years of age, at lower rates.

Carriages and Horses must be at the Station a quarter of an hour before the departure of the Trains; and, to prevent disappointment, previous notice should be given to the Station.

The Company will not be responsible for Luggage, unless it is booked and paid for according to its value; and Passengers are particularly requested to have their Names and Address fully marked thereon, and to satisfy themselves that it is deposited on the Carriages.

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LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

LECTURE ON THE DRAMA.

MR. EUGENE MACARTHY (of the Theatre Royal) will deliver a Lecture on the English Drama, to the Members of the Literary and Philosophical Society and their Friends, in the Lecture Room of the Society, on Tuesday evening next, the 20th inst., at 8 o'clock.

ADMISSION GRATIS.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, April 17, 1841.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF GATESHEAD.

WE, the undersigned, request that you will, at your earliest convenience, call a MEETING of the Inhabitants of the Borough, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament, to abolish CHURCH RATES and ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

William Anderson,	John Hopper,
George Watson,	Joshua Watson,
Henry Brady,	John Fawcett,
W. R. Ozwald,	Thomas Wardman,
James Hymers,	William Rowntree,
James Clephan,	Henry Walker,
Robert Craggs,	R. H. Haggie,
Charles I'Anson,	C. A. Windeatt,
William Angus,	W. Wailes,
William W. Watson,	George Bell,
W. H. Brockett,	William Hedley,
W. Lockey Harle,	William Rickaby,
W. Verty,	R. Garlick,
Thomas Wilson,	George Mather,
H. A. Wilkinson,	John Angus,
John Little,	William Douglas,
Benjamin Matchitt,	Charles Morgan,
William Stobbs,	D. Haggie,
Joseph Barnard,	Thomas Glaholm,
Paul Ormston,	John Nixon,
John Ormston,	Joseph Clephan,
Thomas Swinburne,	Edward Tasker,
T. C. Angus,	George Boyd,
D. Haggie, jun.	William Douglass.

In compliance with the above Requisition, I hereby appoint a MEETING of the INHABITANTS of this Borough, to be held in the Town Hall, on WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, at 7 o'clock.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor.

Gateshead, April 16, 1841.

☞ The Requisitionists are requested to assemble half-an-hour before the time of meeting.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

THE SUMMER SESSION will commence on the First of May.

BOTANY and VEGETABLE PHYSIOLOGY, JOHN THORNHILL.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE, EDW. CHARLTON, M.D.

MIDWIFERY, &c., WM. DAWSON, M. R. C. S.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY, R. M. GLOVER, M. D.

OPERATIVE SURGERY, SIR JOHN FIFE, M. R. C. S. and WM. MORRISON, M. R. C. S.

Further Particulars may be learned from any of the Lecturers, and Tickets obtained from the Secretary, Eldon Square.

WM. DAWSON, Secretary.

PUBLIC MEETING IN GATESHEAD.

ON Wednesday, April 21, a public meeting of the inhabitants of this borough, (convened by its Chief Magistrate, in compliance with a requisition,) was held in the townhall, Oakwellgate, "to take into consideration the propriety of abolishing Church Rates and Ecclesiastical Courts." There was a numerous, though not a crowded attendance; and the proceedings were characterized by great unanimity and order.—The TOWN CLERK having read the requisition,

WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., the Mayor, (who presided on the occasion,) desired that every gentleman who addressed the meeting might have a fair and impartial hearing. (Applause.)

Mr. Ald. BROCKETT moved the first resolution, which was condemnatory of Church Rates. (*See advertisement.*) He was happy in thinking that the peculiar and creditable situation in which the parish of Gateshead stood, in respect to Church Rates, would not only exempt the company assembled at once from any charge of selfishness in the matter, but show to the world that although free themselves from an impost under which their fellow countrymen, in other districts, suffered, they were equally ready to lend their helping hand in redressing the grievances of their neighbours. To the credit of the church-authorities of Gateshead, Church Rates were done away with there seven years ago, and the necessary expenses of the church provided for by a new regulation of pew-rents—the frequenters of the church, with very few exceptions indeed, most willingly consenting to a re-taking of the seats at a new and much increased rental, rather than encroach upon the consciences and pockets of their Dissenting neighbours, or disturb the harmony of the parish by conflicts as unjust in principle as they were injurious to the true interests of religion. The amount so raised, he believed, (although he had not seen the accounts, but he presumed they would be accessible,) was amply sufficient to meet all the necessary expenses of the church; and, therefore, were the churchwardens ever so willing, they would *now* be totally precluded from re-introducing the obnoxious system. The pew-rents certainly by far exceeded any amount of Church Rate, which he, and many others, might have been called upon to pay; but the obvious justice of the new arrangement rendered it most acceptable, and he rejoiced in the example which it had set to the other parishes of the district. (Applause.) The resolution which he was about to propose was to the effect that Church Rates ought to be immediately abolished, as a grievous social wrong, and the parent of persecution and ill-will. He thought he would be able to show, and that without much difficulty, that the present demand for the abolition of Church Rates was founded in justice. He would, for the moment, set aside the argument, (although an unanswerable one it was,) that no man ought to be called upon to contribute to a church from whose communion he dissented; and he would refer simply to the common and statutory law, with which the history of the Church of England was connected. By the common law of England, every person was entitled to a seat in his parish church—and hence the obligation imposed upon him in early times, when Dissent was unknown, to contribute to the maintenance of a fabric to the use of which he was entitled as a matter of right—and a right which he was in the constant habit of exercising. In the olden time, too, every person not attending church was finable to the extent of twelvepence per Sunday (laughter)—a law which, unless repealed very lately, was still remaining on the statute-book—and from whose operation parties could only be exempted by taking certain oaths at the sessions—for which, he believed, a certain fee of sixpence was now, or, at least, was very recently demandable. Thus it was clear, that in return for *rates*, the Church, in ancient times, provided *seats* for the people of England—the "seat" being the "value received" afforded the parishioner for his "rate;" and the fine of twelvepence was the means adopted for securing a constant occupancy of the seats. [Mr. Joshua Watson: Hundreds of pounds have been levied from Friends on this ground.] It was clear, also, that the imposition of the fine involved the necessity of keeping up a supply of seats in due ratio with the increase of the population; otherwise an absentee from church might have been fined for the non-performance of an impossibility, viz., for not seating himself in a church to which he could not gain admittance, because it could not contain a twentieth part of the population. Such was the more ancient and more equitable state of things in reference to the Established Church, her seats, and her rates. Now, it needed no great research to discover, that the churches, now-a-days, with few exceptions, were no larger than they were many centuries ago: and although latterly a spirit of church-building had risen up, it might still be said that the accommodation was not much greater now than it was four or five hundred years ago, when seats were common, and pew-aristocracies unknown. In addition to this virtual dissolution of the contract between the Church and the people, Dissent began to prevail—and, by slow degrees, became tolerated, too. The people of England were allowed to worship in chapels other than Episcopalian—

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other than Episcopalian ministers were allowed to interpret the Bible, and teach their duty to the people—Nonconformists were exempted from penalties and disabilities—the Test and Corporation Acts were repealed—and the just claim of the Catholics to emancipation was at length admitted by the Legislature. Thus, by degrees, the obligation of the Church to provide seats for *all* the people was dissolved—the infliction of twelvepence per Sunday on absentees from the parish-churches was universally abandoned; because to have inflicted such a law on Dissenters, when another law allowed them to worship in churches of their own, would have involved not only an injustice but an absurdity. How then stood the case? Why thus. The Church had gradually relaxed her grasp upon every thing in connection with Dissenters—except their money. (Laughter.) They were no longer compelled to attend the Established Church; and if they were willing to do so, there was no longer sufficient church-room for their accommodation. They were permitted to build their own places of worship, to pay their own ministers, to provide their own bread and wine—thereby exonerating the Establishment from the duty which she originally performed, and yet the Church demanded of the Dissenter the same dues as of old. Why, it was an act of dishonesty—of very swindling—to demand from the parishioner the fulfilment of his part of the contract, when the Church, on the other hand, was totally unable to fulfil hers. (Applause.) Before concluding he wished to say a word or two upon a doctrine lately laid down by Chief Justice Tindal, to the effect that by the common law the inhabitants of a parish were as much bound to repair the church as they were to repair a highway—in other words, he (Mr. Brockett) presumed they would be liable to imprisonment, did they fail to do so. (Hear, hear.) Now, the same difficulty which the Church would labour under, were every man to demand a seat in it, would be felt by the Governor of Durham Gaol, he supposed, were places demanded there by Mr. Justice Tindal, for the contumacious population of Gateshead. (Laughter.) The common law might be as Mr. Justice Tindal had laid it down, but, like the twelvepenny fine, it was one of so impracticable a nature, that there was not much to fear from it. Nay, it only showed, in stronger colours, the difficulties and the labyrinth in which the advocates of compulsory Church Rates were involved. Besides, the analogy did not hold good. A highway was common to all, and was used by all. A strange highway, surely, it would be, if only one description of travellers could travel upon it—if the Churchman monopolized it with his carriage, whilst the humble Dissenter was unable to traverse it on foot. A strange turnpike—one unknown in these parts, certainly—it would be, if the general public were called upon to contribute to it, and yet it were so constructed as to be available only to one peculiar and favoured class. Such were the grounds on which he demanded the total abolition of Church Rates. It was quite a mistake to suppose that *Dissenters only* desired its abolition. The best friends of the Church of England—many of its brightest ornaments, of its most zealous supporters—lamented the continuance of the present system. It was as ridiculous as it was insulting to the Church of England, to suppose, for one moment, that the persons belonging to her communion would not be as willing as other denominations of Christians, to provide for the due exercise of their religion with liberality and alacrity. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Ald. Wilson briefly seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

W. L. Harle, Esq., rose and said, that although a member of the Church of England, the meeting would not deem an apology requisite from him for appearing there as the advocate of true religious liberty, and of freedom for the Dissenter. (Applause.) It was sufficient for him that many of his neighbours, and many in the world at large, possessed of sterling piety, lamented bitterly the wounds inflicted on their conscience by the tax imposed upon them to support a fabric which they never entered, and to wash the surplice of a minister whom they never heard. This tax had recently become more oppressive than ever. Imprisonment and suffering were daily arising from it; and the Dissenters were rousing themselves from their apathy, and seemed determined to destroy that machinery which threw Baines into a gaol, and tyrannized over Thorogood. (Applause.) Dissenters of all denominations had too long and too tamely endured those evils of which that night they had met to complain to the legislature and to the country. Those mysterious relics of antiquity—those dark allies of the Church—usually denominated the Spiritual or Ecclesiastical Courts, had made men shudder by the mode in which they had recently put forth their strength against the opponents of Church Rates. This tax was universally admitted to be bad, but the clerical tribunals which had lately enforced them were woefully worse. (Applause.) Trial by jury never reached them. The good old customs of our Saxon ancestors prevailed not there. Perhaps the meeting was not aware, that up to the period of the Conquest the Bishop and the Sheriff used to sit in judgment together. The Bishop aided the Sheriff, and the Sheriff the Bishop. William the Conqueror was an admirer of the Civic Law, of the Canon Law, of the Church Law, and of any law save the good old Common Law of England. He aided in separating the spiritual jurisdiction from the secular, and succeeded in strengthening the power of the clergy, by giving them sole dominion in a vast variety of matters. How did the meeting think that obstinate men of old escaped the payment of Church Rates? They applied to the Common Law Courts to curb the Ecclesiastical Courts, when the latter interfered in compelling the reluctant to pay the Church Rates of that day. This was done by what was called "*prohibition*;" and the ecclesiastical jurisdiction being thus crushed by that at Common Law, men derided the thunder of the ecclesiastics, and kept their money in peace. In the reign of Edward the First, the clergy, ever on the alert, succeeded in weakening the effect of these prohibitions of the Courts of Common Law in regard to ecclesiastical imposts; and the Spiritual Courts controlled the people with a degree of sternness and rigour before unknown. The lapse of ages had modified these Courts, but they still existed. Their gloomy decisions were now impotent without the assistance of the Common Law authorities; and in such cases as those of Baines and Thorogood, the Judge of the Ecclesiastical Court report the contumacy and contempt to the Bishop, who applied to the Queen in Chancery; and then a suit, quaintly called a *significavit*, was issued to the Sheriff, who apprehended, through his myrmidon, the miserable nonconformist, and he went to gaol with a heart burning with shame and indignation that his country, without trial by jury, should allow him to be thrown into a dungeon for a few beggarly halfpence. Mr. Harle stated, that it was not for him, a lawyer and lover of order, to bring into contempt the tribunals of the country. He lived by law, but, he was happy to say, not by the law of the Spiritual Courts. (Laughter.) Those Courts should be abolished at once and for ever, and let the Common or Statute Law of the country decide grave questions between man and man, instead of canons derived from an ancient priesthood, or strange rules derived from Justinian. How was this great achievement to be accomplished? How was the Dissenter to be relieved from his sufferings in the dungeon, and enabled to defy ecclesiastical thunders? Who were to be the active agents in this great union for liberty of thought and freedom of conscience? He feared there was a want of spirit and union among the great mass of the Dissenters. The two most active sects were the old Anabaptists and Independents—those whose ancestors, with the sword in one hand and the Bible in the other, vanquished the Puseyism of the time of the First Charles, and destroyed the tyranny of a Laud and a Strafford. (Cheers.) But did the Catholics of England, or the Unitarians, or the Quakers, or the Wesleyan Methodists, unite, one and all, to meet, hand to hand and foot to foot, the encroachments of sacerdotal power, and the consequences of ecclesiastical revenge. Were these vast bodies of thinking, intelligent, pious men, embarked in one common principle in the support of one common cause? He feared not. He confessed the fact with sorrow and reluctance, and the more so when he saw the mighty forces in the country arrayed against what was termed "dissent." (Applause.) There was the peerage—with the masses in the agricultural districts, and the most powerful and opulent hierarchy that ever existed on the face of the globe—banded together to support the privileges of the Church, her dominion, her revenues. It was necessary, therefore, that apathy should cease, and vigour prevail, in order to combat these fearful odds. The Quaker must no longer, in passive obedience, permit his clock or his table to be sold, to pay the impost of which he complained, but must unite, heart and hand, with every denomination, in vanquishing tyranny, and removing abuse. (Applause.) Let the meeting understand, that he (Mr. H.) had no wish to

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weaken the Church to which he honestly and sincerely belonged. He had no wish to desecrate her altars, or trample on the grass that grew on the graves of his forefathers. He wished the Church to appear in the genuine splendour of Christianity, untainted by the tears of suffering families—unblamed by the captive—to be a blessing and a consolation to all who believed in her ancient doctrines, and to govern by love rather than by the tyranny of antiquated Courts, and the usages of periods unfavourable to the liberties of his fellow-countrymen. Mr. Harle then moved the second resolution, (which was directed against Ecclesiastical Courts,) amidst considerable applause.

Mr. R. H. Haggie seconded the resolution, and spoke at great length in its support.

Mr. Blagburn thought it discreditable to the Dissenters, that they had left it chiefly to Churchmen to advocate their cause on the present occasion. (Cries of "We have had two Churchmen and two Dissenters," and "The meeting is not over yet.") For himself, he anticipated little benefit from the Legislature, as at present constituted. The House of Commons needed reform: the people must possess equal privileges, before equal legislation could be expected. But he was not one who would refuse a part, because he could not get the whole: he would accept the smallest amelioration, and press forward for more. (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas Glaholm was glad that Churchmen came forward so liberally, and would have been sorry had their assistance been declined. Their countenance would have a good moral effect. It was not now as it was in former days, when Dissenters had to fight for their liberties unaided by Churchmen. (A cry of "Mr. Glaholm's was always a very quiet fight.") Perhaps so: he was never a very noisy fighter. But he had never shrunk from his convictions. Years ago, he had suffered the spoiling of his goods on both sides of the Tyne; and it was his resistance to the demands of the Church, he believed, that led the way to the abolition of the rate in Gateshead. (Applause.)

Mr. Joshua Watson was glad that this meeting was attended by Churchmen, and that they were so liberal as to take an active part in the proceedings. Such conduct was honourable to them, and would materially advance the good cause of religious liberty. (Applause.)

The Rev. E. Tasker, Congregational minister, moved the adoption of a petition founded on the resolutions, and that it be presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Hutt. In the course of his speech, the reverend gentleman said:—It is sometimes seriously and sometimes flippantly asked, "What has a minister of religion to do with politics? Why does he leave the sphere of his peaceful and spiritual functions, to engage on the dusty arena and in the turbulent element of political discussion?" It might be sufficient to reply to these queries, that though a minister of religion, he is a citizen—though he sustains a peculiar character, and fills an office which is at the utmost remove from worldly affairs, his responsibilities and his rights as a man are still the same. (Applause.) He has, indeed, nothing to do with politics *as a minister of religion*; nor will he, if he has a due regard to his own peace and usefulness, appear frequently in public as the partizan of either liberal or conservative principles. Still, as a *man*—as a *citizen*—he is justly entitled to the privilege of expressing his sentiments, publicly or privately, with the greatest boldness, and without any reservation. (Applause.) But the object for which we are now convened is not entirely political—it is civil *and* religious. At the call and in the cause of humanity and religion, we have assembled: the interest and welfare of both are involved in the question, and on its issue the advancement or retardation of truth is suspended. Both duty and inclination, therefore, solicit me to co-operate with you in this noble struggle for securing religious freedom; and while I have an intellect to comprehend, a heart to feel, and a tongue to express the dignity and importance of a theme which involves the social rights and religious privileges of my fellow-men, never will I shrink from the task. (Applause.) It is indeed strange, that there should be any necessity, in the nineteenth century of the Christian era, to discuss the principles of religious liberty, and to protest against any interference, on the part of civil or ecclesiastical rulers, with the rights of conscience which God has made free. Is it not astonishing that men should have been so long in discovering, and men yet seem not to have discovered, that true religion is of too delicate a nature to be compelled, if I may so express myself, by the coarse implements of human authority and worldly sanctions? Let the law of the land restrain vice and injustice of every kind, as ruinous to the peace and order of society—for this is its proper province; but let it not tamper with religion, by attempting to enforce its exercises and duties. These, unless they be free-will offerings, are nothing—they are worse. By such an unnatural alliance and ill-judged aid, hypocrisy and superstition may indeed be greatly promoted, but genuine piety never fails to suffer. Is it not strange that men should fail to recognize these obvious principles? Is it not above all ordinary astonishment astonishing, that learned and wise and benevolent and pious men, should require to be schooled on so simple a theme? that men who, on all other subjects, are clear-sighted and logical, should on this alone be obtuse and illogical? This circumstance alone, in the absence of all other evidence, would induce thinking men to conclude that some other reason than the mere want of perception or logic is at the foundation of their adherence to compulsory Church Rates. It is not disbelief of its inconsistency with reason and religion, but a delightful conviction of its being an admirable expedient to keep their money in their purse, that the whole community is taxed for their especial benefit. Oh! it is the money which is the root of the evil! If this be not the reason, tell me, I pray, ye pro-rate advocates, what *is* the reason? Yes! "let the galled jade wince!" But is it not manifest that, whatever may be the reason, it is unjust to the Dissenter? And if unjust, is he not warranted to complain? Is he not the best judge of the exact point where the shoe pinches? It is on the ground of conscience, which the imposition of this tax aims to violate, that he complains. And ought not his conscientious scruples to be respected? Is not the preserving of one conscience from violation of more real importance than all the Church Rates ever collected? The avowed purpose for which they are exacted is to make men religious, but the compulsory act of collecting them defeats that design. (Cheers.) Well, then, if Church Rates are an unjust exaction on Dissenters—(for of course Churchmen may pay them, if they choose)—ought they not to be abolished? And why have they not been abolished long ago? The reason is obvious to every reflecting mind: it is the almost complete apathy of the Dissenters themselves. (Hear, hear, hear.) Shame upon them! Still, I observe in the first place, this affair must not be thought desperate—no! though it appears deplorable. For the most shocking circumstance of our past conduct, is really the most favourable to our future expectations. And what is this? That our total indolence has been the cause of our present degraded condition. For were we in our present position in spite of every vigorous effort which the rights of conscience demanded, there were then little hope of future success. Then, in the next place, consider (you who have been informed by others, and you who can yourselves remember,) the splendid victories which have been achieved by the lovers of civil and and religious freedom, and especially the Dissenters, in this country. There was a time, Englishmen! when we, as a nation, groaned beneath the yoke of a corrupt and venal House of Commons—when Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, and other large and flourishing towns, had no voice in the legislature, and Old Sarum and the other rotten boroughs returned Members to Parliament. There was a time when England was a slave-holding state. There was a time when Roman Catholics, on account of their religion, were deprived of their civil rights. There was a time when the Dissenters were not only prevented from enjoying the literary advantages of the British Universities, but effectually deterred from holding any office under Government by the imposition of an odious "*Test Act*." But where are the rotten boroughs? where is the Slave Trade? where are the statutes depriving Catholics of their rights? where is the Test Act? Among the things that were! (Loud applause.) How were these grievous wrongs redressed? How were they effectually removed? By the voice, the united influence of a freedom-loving and intelligent people! But why do I mention these things? That ye may know, that ye may see, Englishmen! that, if duly vigilant, ye can have nothing to fear; and that if ye will continue to indulge your apathy, and neglect to assert and maintain your rights, nothing can happen agreeably to your desires. Witness the monstrous evils to which I have referred, which a just attention to your own interests, and that of others, enabled you to abolish; and the arrogance and obstinacy of the pro-rate advocates, whose arrogance and obstinacy, the apathy and insensibility of the

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Dissenters have cherished. Oh! Mr. Chairman! I wish all the Dissenters, and all who feel compulsory Church Rates a grievous burden, were assembled before me, and that my voice could reach them all. I would say to them, "If now at length, my countrymen! you will be persuaded to entertain the same sentiments respecting Church Rates, and act in the same spirit and with the same vigour as you did in relation to all those other evils under which you formerly groaned—if each of you, renouncing all evasions, will be ready to prove himself true to his principles, by acting to the utmost his station and abilities demand—if the rich will be ready to advance the funds requisite for carrying on the work with vigour, for purchasing tracts and other publications which advocate your principles, and the young will be ready to disseminate those publications in every direction—in a word, if you will be *yourselves*, and banish those vain hopes which each entertains, that while so many others are engaged in this business, his efforts will not be required—you then (if it be the will of God) shall obtain your rights—regain those opportunities your selfishness has neglected, and break the galling fetters of your bondage. (Applause.) Let us shake off our indolence; for you see how we are situated—you see the outrageous arrogance of our adversaries, who do not leave it to your choice whether you shall act or remain quiet—who not only brave all your menaces, but execute their iniquitous purposes—who not only distrain your goods, and sell them by public auction, summon you before magistrates in the most insulting and brutal manner, cite you to appear in their vile Ecclesiastical Courts, tear you away from your families and home and domestic endearments—but even drag you through the public streets like robbers or murderers, and immure your persons in stinking prisons—and while we sit down inactive and irresolute, enclose you on all sides with their toils. (Hear, hear, hear.) When, oh! my countrymen! when will you exert your vigour? When will you be roused by some event? When will you be forced to perform your duty by some necessity? What, then, are we to think of our present condition? To those who would be free—to Dissenters—the disgrace attending on apathy, supineness, and misconduct, must furnish the most urgent necessity. But if these reflections fail to rouse you, let your minds dwell on the imprisonment of Thorogood, of Young, and of Baines, until the fire of holy indignation burns in your breast against this monstrous system of iniquity. If these examples of barbarous outrage on humanity—if the story of these instances of cruelty and cupidity—if these acts of injustice were related to the uncivilized Esquimaux, it would kindle a sacred and generous resentment in their shivering breasts. If these individuals had been natives of another clime, and had suffered the same indignities and wrongs for conscience' sake in their own country, it would have been enough to inflame your anger; but they are your countrymen, born in the same clime, speaking the same language, and professing the same religion. Had they been found guilty of some crime by a jury of their peers, your pity would have been excited; but no jury of their countrymen has pronounced them guilty, and the only crime they have committed is the crime of obeying the voice of conscience and of God rather than men. (Applause.) With what hallowed detestation, then, ought you to regard the perpetrators of such villainy! and what lightning of indignation ought to flash from your indignant souls! Oh! if the age of chivalry be not entirely gone—if the spirit of patriotism be not extinct in these degenerate days—prove by your future conduct, my countrymen, that the blood of your ancestors still circles in your veins—that you can appreciate the blessings of civil and religious liberty—and that what you value so highly you are willing at any sacrifice to extend and perpetuate." (Loud applause.) Thus would I address the whole body of Dissenters, and the enemies of compulsory Church Rates; nor am I without hope that these remarks will make the ears of many to tingle. Oh! that the whole Dissenting community were roused! Oh! that they could be induced to come forth to the help of the Lord against the mighty! Nor have we any solid ground for fear; for the signs of the times are far more favourable to our cause at present than they were. The dark clouds are passing from us to the camp of the enemy. Many of our friends, who have been slumbering, have awoke—cast off their supineness—and are beginning to stand erect like men. A mighty movement has commenced. Already the smoke, the flame, the precursors of the eruption of a mighty moral volcano, are seen in every direction; and soon the burning lava of a whole people's indignation will burst forth—and who will be able to resist its raging tide? The combined powers of Puseyite clergy, mitred bishops, and haughty peers will be as the tendrils of the vine on the sides of Vesuvius, when rivers of fire are poured from his entrails. Let the friends of civil and religious freedom only awake and appear in the field in well-disciplined ranks, and wield those weapons which God and nature have put into their hands—the weapons of argument, founded on truth and scripture—and the armies of the aliens will be discomfited. Dissenters are not aware of their resources and prowess; but were they less numerous and powerful, I should never despair of ultimate success. "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just:" and their quarrel is just. Truth, justice, religion, yea the Lord God of Sabaoth is on their side! with such resources, who can doubt that the victory will be theirs? The cause, indeed, already trembles in the balance—a few more vigorous efforts, and the mysterious hand will write "TEKEL" upon *Church Rates*. "Thou art weighed in the balance, and art found wanting." Then cheerly on, courageous friends! Your march is irresistible, your weapons are invincible, your cause is immortal. Vain will be all the attempts of your enemies, if you are true to your cause—to yourselves. As well might they attempt to bind the lightning with a skein of thread—chain the human imagination—or push the earth from its axle, as to resist the onward course of civil and religious freedom. They who will act as a drag-chain on the car of liberty, must expect to be, and *will* be, dragged in the dust. (Loud and protracted applause.)

Mr. WINDEATT seconded the motion.

Mr. CHARLES CROSS made a few observations on the importance of extending the franchise; and

M. JOSHUA WATSON complimented him on the temperate tone of his remarks, and said that it would have been well if the Chartists had always manifested so proper a spirit. [Mr. Cross, we believe, was at all times a temperate, though decided Chartist.]

Mr. WILLIAM ANDERSON suggested the erasure in the petition of the following words:—"Your petitioners admit that there may be reasonable doubts as to the propriety of the course adopted by William Baines. Upon that point they pronounce no opinion." But, after a brief discussion, Mr. Anderson withdrew his suggestion, and the petition was adopted, there being only one dissentient.

THOMAS SWINBURNE, Esq., moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, for his ready compliance with the wishes of the requisitionists, and his conduct in the chair.

Mr. JOSHUA WATSON seconded the motion, and it was carried by acclamation.

The meeting then separated.

THE EXPLOSIONS OF BOILERS.

THE causes of the explosions of the boilers of steam-engines are yet exceedingly obscure, notwithstanding that much attention has been recently paid to the subject. The frequent explosions which occur, continually testify that some conditions have not been taken into account in the theories on the subject yet announced. We may, however, infer, that in all probability there are *many* causes of these explosions.

Last week, the *Gateshead Observer* gave an extract from the *Echo du Monde Savant*, containing a new though somewhat obscure theory.

At the meeting of the Society of Civil Engineers, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., a paper was read by Dr. Schafatul, whose object was to prove, that in explosions the force must act in the contrary direction to that which it is commonly believed to take—that, in fact, the bottom of the boiler is blown from the top, and therefore safety-valves are useless.

Mr. J. Parkes is reported to have stated at this meeting, that there must be different causes of the explosions of boilers—that sometimes there may be too much water in the boiler, at other times too little—sometimes the safety-valve may be closed, or too suddenly opened. In the first of these cases, we may suppose that the explosion is due to the escape of steam by the safety-valve being prevented: in the second case, we may attribute the cause to the sudden formation of steam, or even to its decomposition, and the ignition and explosion of its gaseous constituents.

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An explosion took place lately at Stockport, where neither the fire, water, nor steam, was present to the boiler, which had been emptied, and the fire out, for nearly twenty-four hours; when, on a man entering with a light, to clean out the boiler (which had been closed since it was emptied), he was blown a hundred yards into the air, and the boiler ascended some yards, and then again fell into its place. Now, in this case, we conceive it most probable, that on letting out the water a sufficient portion of vapour had remained to give, by decomposition through the still heated metal, an explosive mixture of oxygen and hydrogen; and this supposition is favoured by the mode in which the explosion took place, and by the scorching received by the unfortunate victim.

In the *Echo du Monde Savant* of the 31st ult., is a rather long article on this subject, containing the exposition of a theory submitted by a Bourdeaux merchant to the French Ministry, and published in the *Moniteur*.

This theory has two bases:—1st, That steam cannot be produced without the raising of a certain quantity of water along with the bubbles of gas formed, and that this quantity bears a proportion to the purity of the water and the extent of its surface.—2d, That the rapidity of escape of fluids of different densities, under equal pressure, is in the inverse ratio of the square roots of this density; so that if the density of a mixture of water and vapour be only 100 times greater than that of steam under a given pressure, the speed of escape of the former will be ten times less, and the volume which escapes ten times smaller. It will result from this, that the quantity of vapour formed to replace this volume, by borrowing its latent heat from the sensible heat of the water, will be only the tenth part of that which would result from an escape of pure steam, which may be insufficient to afford scope for the tension created by the entrance of heat from without; and as the amount of water carried up with the steam will increase with the amount of gas disengaged, and the density of the fluid will increase with the increased pressure, the outlets being so obstructed, an explosion may easily take place.

In the explosion of the French steamer *Cítis*, which took place recently, the following are facts:—1st, There was abundance of water in the boilers; 2d, These vessels were new, and had been properly proved; 3d, The water in the boilers was much charged with earthy matter, which would favour the view above given. G.

NEWCASTLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle was held in the Council-room, Guildhall, on Wednesday April 21, to elect a President in the place of Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., resigned; and a Vice President also, in case the new President should be taken from the Vice Presidents.

Wm. Armstrong, Esq., V. P., presided, and read a letter from Matthew Plummer, Esq., tendering his resignation as Vice President and also as Treasurer of the Chamber, and expressing his regret in doing so, from his long connection with the Chamber.

A ballot then took place for President; and after the scrutineers had examined the papers, the Chairman declared that Joseph Lamb, Esq., V. P., had been unanimously elected President of the Chamber.

A discussion ensued on the propriety of proceeding with the election of a Vice President in the place of Mr. Lamb immediately, or of adjourning the meeting, so as to fill up the vacancy caused by Mr. Plummer's resignation at the same time. Mr. Hindhaugh, Ald. Potter, and Mr. Philipson contended that the latter course would be preferable; and Mr. Brockett, Mr. Hunter, and Mr. Jobling, pointed out the propriety of the election going on, in conformity with the resolution under which the meeting was convened—especially as there was as large an attendance as could possibly be expected at a future time; and as the election of Mr. Lamb had been generally expected to be unanimous, the parties present had doubtless made up their minds on the appointment of his successor in the vice-chair.

A motion for an adjournment was made by Mr. Hindhaugh, and seconded by Mr. Ald. Potter; but, on a show of hands, it was negatived by a very large majority.

A ballot then took place for a Vice President, and the Chairman declared the election to have fallen upon John Brandling, Esq.: the numbers being—For Mr. Brandling, 19; Mr. E. H. Campbell, 14; Mr. G. T. Dunn, 3.

Mr. Brandling returned thanks for the honour, and entered into a short explanation of the cause which led to his ceasing to be a Vice President last year. The Secretary had waited upon him, and stated, that there was a strong desire in the Chamber to retain the services in office of Mr. Armstrong, who had been a most useful member; and Mr. Brandling, in consequence, expressed his readiness to withdraw, and make way for Mr. A., and which he did accordingly.

The Secretary expressed a desire to address the Chamber, particularly as there was a little discrepancy, although a very slight one, between Mr. Brandling's statement and his own.

Mr. Hunter thought the Secretary should explain whether he made the communication to Mr. Brandling as Secretary, or in his private capacity.

The Secretary answered, that he did so in his private capacity, and was proceeding to explain, but was requested by many persons in the Chamber not to do so; and eventually he gave way to the solicitations of his friends, though not until he had stated that he would tell them the whole circumstances of the case, if they chose—aye, and "of what transpired at Blagdon, too." (Cries of "No! no!")

A resolution was then passed, that a special meeting should be held on that day week, to fill up the vacancies created by Mr. Plummer's resignation, and also elect a member of the Committee, should the Vice President be taken from that body.

Mr. Lamb entered the meeting during the proceedings, and thanked the members for the honour they had done him: he regretted the resignation of Sir M. W. Ridley, who was an amiable and excellent man, but who evidently had mistaken the Corn Law subject (which was of a purely commercial nature) for a political question. He (Mr. L.) would also exert himself to the utmost to deserve their good opinion.

The Chairman announced, that several members had agreed to have a *dejeuner* together at the Assembly Rooms at four o'clock, in honour of their new President, and he hoped the attendance would be numerous.

At four o'clock, accordingly, between 20 and 30 members sat down to one of Mr. Haigh's splendidly-furnished tables, containing salmon, lamb, and the various delicacies of the season, with champagne, &c., &c., in abundance—Joseph Lamb, Esq., President, in the chair. Wm. Armstrong, Esq., occupied the vice-chair; and amongst the company were the Mayor and Sheriff of Newcastle, the Rev. W. Turner, and several of the principal members of the Corporation and leading merchants of the town. The eating department having concluded, the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair; and, a bumper being called for, the health of the new President was proposed by the Vice President, and drank with all the honours.

The President replied in a feeling speech—expressing his pleasure in being placed by his fellow-townsmen in a situation of so much honour amongst them—repeating his regret at the resignation of Sir M. W. Ridley, and his belief, that it had arisen from his supposing that the Corn Law question was a political one, whereas it was purely commercial—and concluding by paying an affectionate tribute of respect to his reverend friend, Mr. Turner, to whose talents and attention he was deeply indebted in the education he received in his youthful days.

The President proposed the health of the late President, Sir M. W. Ridley, which was drunk with three times three.

"The Mayor and Corporation" were proposed by Mr. Armstrong, and responded to by the Mayor.

The health of the Rev. Mr. Turner was proposed by the President, and the Vice President's health by the Mayor, and were severally acknowledged.

The Chairman proposed the health of the gentlemen from Gateshead, and expressed his anxious hope that the two towns might always pull together for the general prosperity of the port.

Mr. Brockett and Mr. Wilson returned thanks, and Mr. Brockett proposed the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. Grieveson, which was drunk with three British cheers, and responded to by the Secretary, who expatiated on the importance of commerce, not only to the country at large, but to the nobility, whose restoration to wealth was so frequently effected by alliances with the mercantile classes of the land.

After many other appropriate toasts had been drunk, the party separated, highly delighted with their choice of presiding officer, and with the afternoon's entertainment.

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COLLIERY-EXPLOSION AT WILLINGTON.

ANOTHER of those no less frequent than unavoidable calamities which desolate the homes of our mining population, by suddenly sweeping into eternity numbers of their relations and friends, on whose labour they depend for the means of subsistence, took place, on Monday April 21, at one of the collieries at Willington, called the "Big Pit," (Matthew Bell, Esq., M.P., Dixon Brown, Esq., and George Johnson, Esq., owners.) This colliery had been laid off for a number of years, in consequence of the seam of coal having been wrought out. It was commenced again a months ago by the opening out of a new seam, called the "Bensham seam," about 30 fathoms lower down, which is the seam now working at Wallsend colliery.

The explosion took place at about twenty minutes past one o'clock on Monday afternoon, and was made known to those at the bank by a very loud report, and a dense volume of smoke suddenly issuing from the mouth of the shaft. Nothing had occurred from which such a catastrophe could have been anticipated; and at eleven in the forenoon, when a portion of the men left off work, the workings were in their usual condition. In this as in almost every other case of a like nature, the cause of the accident is involved in obscurity, from the fact that those who alone could have furnished a clue to it, shared in the general destruction. There were in the pit at the time, 35 men and boys, 32 of whom perished.

The three persons who were preserved alive, and almost unhurt, were:—Michael Ranson, Henry Dunn, and George Charlton, a boy. They were sinkers, and employed in another part of the mine, about half-a-mile distant from where it took fire, and near the workings of the "Edward" pit. Both the fire and the "after-damp" had consequently become exhausted before they could reach the spot. The situation of these men was, however, notwithstanding, one of considerable peril, from the quantity of dust which was violently blown about them, and with which they were like to have been suffocated. They were speedily extricated, the viewers and a party of workmen having descended as soon as possible after the explosion.

There were four bodies brought up the same afternoon. The men worked the whole of Tuesday and Tuesday night; and at six o'clock yesterday morning, all the bodies had been found except four. These were George Campbell, John Campbell, John Brown, and John Hall; about 12 o'clock, the body of George Campbell was brought up, much mutilated, having been buried under a heap of fallen material, from which it took three hours to extricate him, after he was discovered. Up to four o'clock there were no more bodies found; one of the workmen said that they did not know where to look for the rest. The fire was still not quite extinguished, though water had been constantly conveyed down from Monday afternoon.

It is a circumstance worthy of particular notice that a pony also survived the dreadful catastrophe. This animal was both lame and blind, and had been in the pit for a great number of years: indeed, for a period beyond the recollection of the oldest workmen, one of whom said he remembered it even when he was a boy. It had become a special favourite; and its preservation seems to have been almost miraculous, as it was in the mine for twenty-six hours after the explosion, without either water or food.

It would be useless to attempt to paint the scene at the Bank, as the mouth of the mine is technically termed. As a measure of precaution, the women and parties who could be of no avail, were kept at a distance from the spot, which exhibited a most melancholy aspect, the vicinity of the Bank being occupied with coffins ready to receive the wretched remains of the deceased as they were brought to light.

Some of the bodies were much disfigured; others were little injured, having, as it was supposed, survived the fire, and been suffocated by what is called the "after-damp," or accumulation of noxious gas which is left after the fire subsides. This colliery was always considered safe. It was visited, about a month ago, by a party of ladies, who were much entertained with the appearance of order and caution in the works, the stables and other erections being all whitewashed.

At half-past two o'clock on Wednesday, the coroner, Stephen Reed, Esq., and a respectable jury, met at the house of Mr. Henry Wardale, sign of the Engine, Willington. After the jury had been sworn, having previously viewed a number of the bodies, the coroner briefly addressed them on the nature of their duties, and said that as there were yet three bodies in the pit, and other circumstances which would prevent them from entering properly into the investigation that day, he would not trouble them further, but adjourn the inquest until Thursday, at 12 o'clock; and in the mean time made out orders of burial for those who wished to have their friends interred immediately.—*Northern Advertiser.*

[FROM THE COURANT.]

The workings are, comparatively, not extensive, the east headway running 220 yards, and the west headway 280 yards, while that to the north is even much shorter. The shaft is sunk to the depth of 140 fathoms, the High Main Seam being passed through, and the working of the Bensham Seam fairly carried on.

There were employed in the pit at the time of the explosion 35 men and boys, and the first intimation which those at the bank received of their fellows' danger, was the tremendous report, accompanied by a dense volume of smoke. The effect upon the earth for a considerable distance round, is said, in some degree, to have resembled that produced by the shock of an earthquake, the whole surface appearing, as it were, to quiver. The noise was heard far in every direction, more especially eastward, the wind at the time blowing strong towards that quarter; and the melancholy tidings were thus proclaimed throughout the whole neighbourhood by the very agency which wrought the mischief. Relatives, and all in any way connected or sympathising with those engaged in the work, were drawn to the spot, manifesting in every look and action the dismal anxiety, the gloomy foreboding, or the intense sorrow, with which the occurrence had overwhelmed them. Two men—Michael Ranson and Henry Dunn—and George Charlton, a boy, all sinkers, were employed at some distance in the east headway, and were made sensible of their danger by the dust and wind which came upon them. Fortunately, the after-damp was spent, and they reached the shaft without being injured: there they found that stones and wood-work at the bottom were torn from their places and had fastened the "cage;" but, after much labour, they were rescued from their perilous position and conveyed to the top in safety. Without loss of time, and with a readiness which, while it bespoke their feeling, displayed their courage, a body of workmen descended and forthwith commenced their melancholy work. The labour, exhausting though it was, was continued unremittingly, until the bodies of the thirty-two sufferers were recovered. Amongst the number obtained in the earlier part of the search, were three, who, though much mangled, were yet alive: they were immediately conveyed to where the most judicious assistance could be afforded, but they shortly afterwards died in excruciating agony. In another part of the west headway lay three men, completely dead, one of whom was dressed, and had his night-cap stuffed in his mouth; the others had a part of their clothes on; and it is accordingly presumed that these unfortunate men, aware of the peril they were in, had ventured on an attempt at escape. Twenty nine bodies had been obtained on Wednesday, and in the course of Thursday the remaining three were found.

Many of the bodies were in a sound state, indicating that their death had been the result of suffocation. In the majority of cases they were mutilated, and presenting a sight truly appalling: in others, the falling of the stones and props, which were wrenched from their places by the one devouring power, had so completely unhumanized them—so broken every bone and muscle—that the coffins had to be sent down, to prevent limb falling from limb, while being conveyed up the shaft.

How or where this calamity originated must ever remain matter of speculation. The seam which was being worked, was the same as that in which the accident at Wallsend happened, and is generally spoken of as being attended with greater risk than other seams. Those about the pit, and who, though interested, may be considered the most competent judges in the matter, positively state that no apprehension of danger existed in the mind of any one—that, on the contrary, perfect confidence prevailed, and was justified by the care and labour which had every where been bestowed. The solution put forward as the most probable, and as supported by concurrent testimony, is, that the whole is attributable to the neglect of a boy, "a trapper," who left the trap door in the north headway, to which it was his duty to attend, to play with two other boys close by. It is essential that these doors be shut, except at the very moment when the "putter" is passing; and in the present instance, it is supposed the boy propped open his door—that it remained thus for some time—and that the necessary ventilation was thereby prevented.

[FROM OUR REPORTER.]

Previous to reporting the proceedings of the adjourned inquest, held on Thursday last, we give a correct list of the sufferers by this impressive calamity:—

Thomas Wood, 39, wood-leader, has left a wife and six children. Michael Martin, 36, hewer, has left a wife and four children. William Martin, 10, trapper, son of the above. John Campbell, 34, hewer, unmarried. George Campbell, 18, putter, nephew of the above. [These last four were all united by near ties of relationship. George Campbell's mother was Michael Martin's sister.] Thomas Dodgson, 27, hewer, recently married. William Dodgson, 25, hewer, brother of the above. Jonathan Crosier, 20, putter, unmarried. John Joyce, 23, putter, unmarried. William Howey, 24, putter, has left a wife and two children. Robert Brown, 19, putter, unmarried. George Martin, 17, putter.—[The family of this young man has suffered severely from coal-pit accidents. He had a brother killed about fourteen months ago by a fall of a portion of the roofing

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in Bell and Brown's Wallsend pit; his father, some years ago, met his death by a rush of water; and, at a later period, his grandfather, by an explosion—both at the same colliery.] William Coxon, 36, hewer, a widower, has left one child. Joseph Johnson, 27, hewer, unmarried. Thomas Bainbridge, 18, putter. William Bainbridge, 11, trapper, brother of the above. Simpson Mason, 10, trapper. Thomas Bolton, 9, trapper. James Liddell, 14, putter. Thomas Pearson, 15, driver. Robert Pearson, 9, trapper, brother of the above. James Pearson, 18, putter. John Reed, 28, deputy, unmarried. Robert Black, 15, driver. John Crawford, 22, onsetter, unmarried. Richard Cooper, 9, trapper, [supposed to have been the unwitting cause of the explosion, by leaving his trap-door open, and going to play with some of the other trappers.] Matthew Ranson, 15, onsetter. John Hall, 16, driver. John Brown, 13, trapper. Robert Campbell, 14, driver. Joseph Crosby, 17, craneman. George Scott, 9, trapper.—John Crawford, Robert Black, and James Pearson, were alive when taken out of the pit, but expired very shortly after.

The first witness called on the inquest was—

Thomas Campbell (a deputy, and the father of one of the sufferers). Is a pitman and has been three months employed in this pit, which is the Bigge Pit. Went down into the pit every day, and remained there seven hours. His duty was, to examine it, and see to the men, and to what was going on; and particularly to the ventilation of the pit. The air in general was very good; on the morning of the accident was quite cool—so much so, that the men complained of being cold. When the air is cool, it is an indication of its being pure—when hot and oppressive, of its impurity. No "blowers" of gas had ever been known in this pit—the little gas generated being always carried off by the current of fresh air circulating throughout the workings: this current was caused by the furnace at the upcast of the pit.

[A plan of the Willington Colliery was here shown by Mr. Johnson, one of the proprietors, from which it appeared that the workings were as yet but little extended. In his (Mr. J's) opinion, the ventilation was perfect. He had been down into the pit that morning to examine it; and from that examination, he was inclined to think the explosion had been caused by one of the boys leaving his "trapdoor" to go and play with some of the other lads: and he was strengthened in his opinion by the fact, that the body of this lad (Cooper) was found in a very different position from that in which it would have been had he been at his door. The door being thus neglected, he thought the gas had escaped from the workings; and one of the men coming with a candle, the gas had exploded, and thus caused this dreadful loss of life.]

Thomas Campbell (resumed):—The pitmen used candles, not Davy-lamps, the pit being considered so safe as not to require the latter. He had himself been down the pit with a candle since the accident; was there when his son's body was found. There were four boys who had charge of these trap-doors. Their duty was to open and shut them as the men passed through with coals. His son was a "putter." From his examination of the pit, he thought Mr. Johnson correct in his opinion as to the cause of the explosion. His son was 18 years of age.

The Coroner:—Should not the door (being, as you say, constructed so as to close with the force of the current of air circulating in the workings,) have shut of itself when left? unless, indeed, it had been propped open by the boy in charge, when he went away.

Mr. Johnson and the witness Campbell answered in the affirmative to this interrogative of the Coroner: and the latter also stated that all employed in the pit had been warned of the danger of leaving the doors open; so that if his son—who had to come through this (as he supposed) neglected door to "put" the coals from the "board" where the explosion took place—found it open, he would conclude it had just been opened, and that the "trapper" was close at hand to shut it.

The Coroner:—Did the "putters" carry candles on their tubs? Yes, to give light while filling their coals, and putting them into the tub on the inclined plane—from whence they are taken on the railway, and afterwards to the bank. He (Campbell) did not think his son (finding the "trapper" absent) could have propped the door open, to save himself trouble, he was always so steady. Mr. Johnston also stated there would have been no time, had such been the case, for the accumulation of a sufficient quantity of gas to cause the explosion—since not more than two or three minutes could elapse between his going and returning. Campbell said he considered this pit as safe as any. (The age of the boys having charge of these trap-doors was found upon inquiry to vary from nine to thirteen years.)

The Coroner then asked Campbell several questions respecting the state of the atmosphere on the day of the explosion, he having heard, he said, that the state of the external atmosphere (particularly when the wind was from the south) had a great effect upon the atmosphere in the pit; to which Campbell replied that that was the case—but that on Monday, the wind was from the north-west, a quarter which made no difference to the air in the pit. The diameter of the shaft (which is circular, and has no division) is 9 feet 4 inches; and so far from the "cages" filling up the passage in going up and down, there is an area of five feet between them; or, taking every side (it was stated by one of the jury), 20 feet. The time of passing, too, was so momentary, that no interruption could take place—as was proved by the rate of the current (never less than 4 feet to 5 feet per second) of air in the shaft.

William Hornsby (a pitman) was then examined—Was in the Bigge Pit on Monday last—left at nine o'clock, when the other men came down. The pit was perfectly well ventilated when he was there—considers it was quite safe. Cannot state anything certain as to the cause of the explosion. The deputy had been in his "board" at half-past eight. Never knew the ventilation better than on Monday. The trap-doors were all right when he left. Has often heard the deputy charge the "trappers" to look well to the doors. Works with a candle, and is not afraid to do so, thinking it quite safe. Can think of no other cause of explosion than neglect on some of the "trappers'" parts.

Mr. Johnson wished every inquiry to be made; but the Coroner and Jury both thought there was no necessity to examine all the witnesses: only two more witnesses were therefore called—the first of whom,

Michael Ranson, stated he was down in the eastern extremity of the pit when the explosion occurred, about 500 yards from the shaft: the explosion occurred nearly 700 yards from where he was. Knew something had happened by the sudden rush of wind, and the dust brought along by it: their candles were blown out. He and his two companions made the best of their way towards the foot of the shaft, on reaching which they found the stone-work fallen, and the timber-gearing supporting it lying about; they found the "cage" at the bottom fastened, but they loosed the hook, and were drawn up by the other tub, which was sent down for them.

Robert Wilkinson (a hewer) was in the "shift" that was down just before that in which the men were lost. He worked in the middle board. The air was very good where he was when he left, which was about nine o'clock in the morning. The boy Cooper kept the trap-door of the board where he worked, and was, so far as he had seen of him, a steady lad: he had never known him neglect his door. He believed the trap-doors were in a sound condition. The youth Campbell "put" for him. When the pitmen have hewn their quantity of coals, they leave the pit—the putters and trappers remaining behind, till the putters had got all the coal taken to the top of the inclined plane. These boys are sometimes four or five hours in the pit after the hewers—but always under the superintendence of the deputies and other overlookers, who continue in the pit all the time the others are there.—[While this witness was under examination, word was brought that the missing corpse had just been found.]—There was quite sufficient supply of air to render the use of candles safe.

Mr. Johnson then explained to the Coroner and Jury that the "back-deputy," who succeeded Campbell (the first witness) in the pit, has the controul of all the men and boys—that he sees the doors are kept in order, that the ventilation is preserved, that all in the "workings" leave before him, and that all the lights are extinguished before he leaves.

The Coroner then addressed the Jury, saying, that after hearing the evidence of the witnesses already examined—and after the perspicuous explanations given by Mr. Johnson of the construction of the colliery—he conceived there could be no necessity for calling more witnesses, as they could only state mere surmises. It appeared to him most probable, that the accident had originated in the neglect of some one of the "trappers," as before mentioned—they could arrive at no certainty. There could be no hesitation, in his opinion, as to the

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verdict which they must return—"Accidental death"—but it was for them to decide. Every attention appeared to have been paid, both by the proprietors and superintendents, to the proper ventilation of the colliery.—The Jury, without retiring, immediately returned a verdict of "Accidental Death, from the Explosion of Hydrogen Gas."

[We cannot conclude this notice of this melancholy event without stating, that every requisite explanation with respect to the working of the colliery, and the situation of the different passages, was most readily afforded by Mr. Johnson and his nephew, who both seemed deeply concerned at the loss of life occasioned by it.

That this sad catastrophe was the result of mere accident, there can, we think, be no doubt—the result very probably, of the cause suggested by Mr. Johnston, viz., the boy Cooper leaving his trap-door, to play with some of the other lads. That the pit, too, was considered perfectly safe, as stated by the witnesses, (one of whom lost a son—and all, friends or relatives,) we have as little doubt. But we put it to all who have the management of similar concerns, whether it is at any time wise, or even right, where there are so many lives at stake, to risk them by dispensing with the use of the *safety lamp*? True, there may be cases where the use of *candles* would never endanger the lives of the workmen; but who can take upon himself to say such shall be the case? And how often does it not happen, that such accidents occur when least expected, and most carefully guarded against, both by proper ventilation and other means, *except* the use of the safety-lamp; and then, as in this instance, a number of our fellow-creatures are at once hurried into eternity, leaving the young and helpless, or the old and infirm, to lament their loss—a loss never to be made up by any kindness!]

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!

In the *Morning Chronicle* of Monday, April 19, we find the following advertisement in the first page:—"A gentleman, 63 years old, who, on Saturday last, between six and seven P.M., met, near Buckingham-gate, with a most interesting-looking child, four years of age, but who forbore, from respect for the lady who had her in hand, to ask the girl's name and abode, will be gratefully obliged to those who have the happiness of possessing the child, to be informed where she lives, and if he may be allowed to see her again. A letter will reach the advertiser, T. C., at No. 61, Lincoln's-inn-fields."

And in the second page we find the following "LINES on his NEW CHILD-SWEETHEART, by THOMAS CAMPBELL."

I HOLD it a religious duty,
To love and worship children's beauty;
They've least the taint of earthly clod—
They're freshest from the hand of God.
With heavenly looks, they make us sure
The heaven that made them must be pure.
We love them not in earthly fashion,
But with a beatific passion.

I chanced to, yesterday, behold
A maiden child of beauty's mould:
'Twas near (more sacred was the scene)
The palace of our patriot Queen.
The little charmer, to my view,
Was sculpture brought to life anew:
Her eyes had a poetic glow—
Her pouting mouth was Cupid's bow;
And through her frock I could descry,
Her neck and shoulders' symmetry.
'Twas obvious, from her walk and gait,
Her limbs were beautifully straight.
I stopt th' enchantress, and was told,
Though tall, she was but four years old:
Her guide so grave an aspect wore
I could not ask a question more—
But followed her. The little one
Threw backward, ever and anon,
Her lovely neck, as if to say,
I know you love me *Mister Grey*.
For by its instinct childhood's eye
Is shrewd in physiognomy:
They well distinguish fawning art
From sterling fondness of the heart.

And so she flirted, like a true
Good woman, till we bade adieu!
'Twas then I with regret grew wild:
Oh! beauteous, interesting child,
Why ask'd I not thy home and name?
My courage fail'd me—more's the shame.

But where abides this jewel rare,
Oh! ye that own her, tell me where?
For sad it makes my heart and sore
To think I ne'er may meet her more.

CHURCH-RATES AND ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

AT a PUBLIC MEETING of the Inhabitants of GATESHEAD, held on Wednesday, April 21, 1841, in the Townhall, Oakwellgate, WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor, in the Chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Mr. Ald. Brockett,
Seconded by Mr. Ald. Wilson,

1. That Church Rates, in the opinion of this meeting, are indefensible in principle, and, in the present state of the Christian Church in England, a grievous social wrong, and the fruitful parent of persecution, discord, and ill-will. That the impost has been abolished in Gateshead seven years; yet, within that period, St. Mary's church has been extensively altered and repaired, and Trinity chapel restored, through the power of the Voluntary principle. That this meeting, therefore, would anticipate no evil consequences to the venerable churches of the land, if Church Rates were forthwith and unconditionally abolished; but that a substitute might readily be provided, (if the Legislature should think some provision necessary,) by an improved management of ecclesiastical property, which would realize a surplus amply sufficient to atone for the extinction of the rate.

Moved by W. L. Harle, Esq.,
Seconded by Mr. R. H. Haggie,

2. That this meeting condemns the constitution, and desires the destruction, of the arbitrary Ecclesiastical Courts of England, under which William Baines was unrighteously deprived of personal liberty, and now lies incarcerated in the common gaol of the county of Leicester. That the existence of these Courts is incompatible with the enjoyment of civil and religious freedom—a scandal to the Constitution and a disgrace to the age; and this meeting is of opinion that they should be altogether abolished, or, at least, confined in their jurisdiction to the internal discipline of the Episcopal Church.

Moved by the Rev. E. Tasker,
Seconded by Mr. Windeatt,

3. That the following petition, founded on the resolutions adopted by this meeting, be entrusted to William Hutt, Esq., for presentation to the House of Commons, and that the Honourable Member be respectfully requested to give every possible support to its prayer.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Borough of Gateshead, in the County of Durham, adopted in Public Meeting, convened and presided-over by the Worshipful the Mayor,

Sheweth,—That your petitioners are deeply impressed with the evil consequences of Church Rates. Such an impost, however unobjectionable it may have been considered in a former age, is, in the present state of society, equally unjust and impolitic. It is a grievous social wrong, and the fruitful parent of unchristian strife and animosity.

Your petitioners, in seeking the correction of this national grievance, approach your Honourable House under circumstances which effectually preclude them from the suspicion of interested motives. It cannot be said of them, as it has sometimes uncharitably been said of the opponents of Church Rates generally, that they are actuated, not by principle, but by the mere desire to escape the payment of a tax; for your petitioners have nothing to gain, in a pecuniary sense, by the legislative abolition of Church Rates—they are free from the impost already—it was abolished in Gateshead seven years ago.

Your petitioners respectfully inform your Honourable House, that when the hostility of the inhabitants to Church Rates was made manifest in this large and populous parish, the churchwardens, anxious to avoid ill-feeling and bitterness, proposed an annual payment for pew-seats, which was submitted to by churchgoers, although they had previously purchased a life-interest in their sittings. Some few complained of the injustice of being compelled to make this double payment; but even these consented to the arrangement, as a less injustice than the imposition of Church Rates on persons who did not frequent the church at all.

Your petitioners further state, that since the abolition of Church Rates in Gateshead, Trinity chapel has been restored at an expense of £1,400; which sum was raised by grants and voluntary subscriptions, notwithstanding that the number of sittings does not much exceed 200. And on St. Mary's church an expense of £2,006 was more recently incurred by the churchwardens, in the full expectation of raising the amount by voluntary contributions. About three-fourths of the sum have already been subscribed, and the churchwardens do not think of asking for a rate to rid them of the remainder of the burden. Your petitioners, many of whom are subscribers to the repairs of St. Mary's, consider it fortunate, as well as creditable to the church-authorities, that the imposition of a rate has not been attempted. Such an attempt would have

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been resisted by a majority of the vestry, and was wisely avoided; the late respected Rector fully seeing (as your petitioners trust his successor does also), both the impolicy and the inutility of waging war upon the consciences of his Dissenting parishioners.

From the foregoing statement, your Honourable House must perceive, that, even under circumstances of peculiar emergency, what is commonly called the "voluntary" principle has been adequate to the wants of the Established Church in Gateshead, an ancient chapel having been restored, and the parish-church extensively repaired and altered, without the aid of a rate; but if, nevertheless, in abolishing Church Rates, your Honourable House should think it incumbent upon you to provide a substitute, then your petitioners submit, that ample funds may be procured by an improved management of ecclesiastical property.

Seeing, therefore, that Church Rates are as unnecessary as they are unjust and injurious, your petitioners earnestly pray that they may be forthwith and entirely abolished.

Your petitioners pray also that your Honourable House may be pleased to take into your serious consideration the propriety of abolishing Ecclesiastical Courts, under one of which, at this present time, William Baines, an inhabitant of Leicester, lies unrighteously imprisoned.

Your petitioners admit, that there may be reasonable doubts as to the propriety of the course adopted by William Baines. Upon that point they pronounce no opinion. But they condemn, strongly and decidedly, the odious tribunal by which he has been deprived of his liberty, and incarcerated in a common gaol, for an act which, however much its wisdom may be questioned, is clearly undeserving of so grievous a punishment. Your petitioners, regarding the Ecclesiastical Courts as arbitrary and unconstitutional, pray your Honourable House that they may be utterly abolished, or, at least, their jurisdiction confined to the members of the Episcopal Church.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

The Mayor having left the Chair,

Moved by T. Swinburne, Esq.,

Seconded by Mr. Joshua Watson,

4. That the cordial thanks of this meeting be given to William Hymers, Esq., the Mayor of Gateshead, for his prompt compliance with the requisition to convene this meeting, and the able and courteous manner in which he has presided over its proceedings.

☞ The Petition lies for signature at the *Observer* Office; Mr. Hopper's, near Trinity chapel, High-street; and at Mr. Watson's, Bookseller, Bottle-bank.

Sir Walter C. James, Bart., M.P. for Hull, was united on Saturday, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, to Sarah Caroline, fifth daughter of Cuthbert Ellison, Esq., of Whitehall-gardens, London, and Hebburn-hall, Durham. The wedding-party occupied about twenty carriages, and made a great "stir" in the quiet neighbourhood of Westminster Hall. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Bowstead, Bishop of Sodor and Man, in the presence of a very numerous assemblage of the nobility and other relatives of the bride and bridegroom, who partook of a splendid *dejeune* at the house of the bride's father. Among the company present were her Grace the Duchess of Northumberland, the Earl of Mansfield and the Ladies Murray, the Earl and Countess of Rosebery, Viscount Castlereagh, Lord and Lady Strafford, Lord and Lady Wenlock, Lord and Lady Ravensworth, Lord Ellenborough, Lady Rendlesham, Col. and Lady Caroline Wood, E. W. Gladstone, Esq. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Lambton, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Sir Henry and Lady Hardinge, Mr. and Mrs. Ellison, &c. &c. After the *dejeune*, the bride and bridegroom left town in a carriage and four for South-Park, Penshurst, Kent, the seat of Sir H. Hardinge.—April 24.

The Popular-Lecture and Musical-Entertainment Society met on Monday evening—the second anniversary of its establishment—at Mr. Simpson's Coffee Rooms, in Grainger-street, Newcastle, when Armorer Donkin, Esq., was called upon to preside. The report was then read, and presented sources both of regret and gratification. The ordinary increase of the past year had not been equal to the expenditure, and an increase of members was suggested as a preventive of such an occurrence in future. There are now only 70 enrolled members—a number miserably disproportionate to the population of the two boroughs. This, we are sure, arises from no other circumstance than the omission of personal applications to our benevolent neighbours; most of whom, if applied to, would gladly become annual subscribers, as an evidence of their desire for the recreation and improvement of the people.—£61 12s. 6d., the Report stated, had been raised in the past year, for the purchase of apparatus, &c.; and the Committee had bought various articles at the breaking-up of the Polytechnic Exhibition. A piano-forte had also been purchased, whereby the weekly hire of an instrument was saved to the institution. The fund from which these purchases were made, was contributed by the Bishop of Durham, Mr. Ord, M.P., Dr. White, Mr. Donkin, Mr. John Clayton, Mr. Thomas Cargill, Mr. William Cargill, and other philanthropic gentlemen, to whom the thanks of the Society were justly due. To the Committee, too, of the Polytechnic Exhibition, the Society were much indebted, for their ready kindness in lending from the rooms whatever articles were calculated to increase the interest of the weekly meetings.—The Report of the Committee concluded with an appeal to the members for assistance in procuring lecturers, subscriptions, and donations; and Mr. George Burnett, the Treasurer, proceeded to read his statement of accounts; from which it appeared that the ordinary receipts of the past year had been £245 13s. 11d., and the ordinary expenditure £303 7s. On the whole accounts, there was, however, a trifling ballance in hand, attributable to the surplus of 1839-40, and the liberality of the Bishop of Durham and others in the past year. The Report was received and adopted, and the accounts passed. A vote of thanks to the lecturers was then proposed—unanimously agreed to—and ordered to be advertised in the *Newcastle Courant* and *Gateshead Observer*. The business of the meeting being at an end, Mr. Ald. Donkin vacated the chair, and received the thanks of the members for his services. [The scrutineers, when the meeting broke up, proceeded to cast up the voting-papers previously placed in the hands of the worthy Chairman; and at the conclusion of their task, they found the election to have fallen on the following gentlemen:—Sir John Fife, *President*.—Mr. George Burnett, jun., *Treasurer*.—Mr. James Hoggins, *Secretary*.—Dr. Knott, Rev. E. D. Rendell, Capt. J. D. Weatherley, and Messrs. John Reed, James Ions, A. Falkner, John Hancock, Albany Hancock, James Clephan, George Brewis, G. H. Hardy, H. L. Pattinson, Thomas Dawson, William Coxwell, Thomas Gray, William Richardson, T. P. Barkus, and William Harbottle, *Committee*.]—April 24.

St. Paul's chapel, Westgate-hill, Newcastle, (the foundation-stone of which was laid on the 15th of May, 1840,) was opened on Thursday last, when prayers were read by the Rev. H. W. Wright, assisted by the Rev. W. Maughan, and a sermon was preached by the Vicar, from 1 Chron. xxix. 5. The situation selected for the chapel is peculiarly favourable, being in the centre of an increasingly populous district. The building is isolated, as we think all churches and chapels should be, as far as is practicable, and is surrounded by a spacious plot of ground, intended for a cemetery, which, when completed, will form a most suitable place of sepulture, and be very ornamental to the neighbourhood. The style adopted in the building, is of the Norman character; and although the exterior is studiously plain, with the view of obtaining the necessary accommodation at a limited expense, yet there is great harmony and neatness in the appearance of the edifice, which is constructed in the most substantial manner. The communion is formed by a projection at the east end, and the entrance by a projection at the west end; the latter of these is carried up beyond the roof, in imitation of a tower, and supports a lofty and open bell turret, surmounted by an octagonal pinnacle, terminated by a handsome vane—the height of the top of which, from the surface of the ground, is nearly eighty feet; and the building being placed on a highly elevated situation, the whole is rendered conspicuous from the greatest part of the surrounding district. The exterior dimensions of the body of the chapel are sixty-seven feet by forty-five. The interior is finished in good taste, and in keeping with the ecclesiastical character of the building, and the whole arranged so as to afford the greatest accommodation and comfort. A gallery is constructed on each side, and at one end; and the whole, with the pews on the ground floor, contains about 700 sittings, upwards of 100 of which are intended to be free. The pews on the ground floor are placed upon an inclined plane, which affords the greatest possible advantage to the congregation, both for sight and sound; and the pew backs throughout the chapel are fixed in a sloping position, so as to contribute very much to the ease and comfort of the person. The whole has been executed from the plans, and under the skilful and most assiduous direction of Mr. Andrew Oliver, architect, Newcastle; and great credit is also to be given to the several contractors by whom the work has been so well and so promptly performed. But whilst awarding praise where praise to each in his department is so

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justly due, the public will not fail gratefully to bear in mind the indefatigable exertions of the incumbent of St. John's (Mr. Wright) to promote this excellent undertaking; and we trust the gratifying spectacle he was called upon to witness on Thursday, of the church well filled in every part, will be oft and for many years repeated to him, as the best evidence both of the necessity and the public appreciation of his efforts.—April 24.

The Botanical and Horticultural Society of Newcastle met yesterday, in the Victoria Room, High Friar-street, when there was an exhibition of fruits and flowers, and prizes were awarded as follows:—To Mr. John Stephenson, gardener to W. J. Charlton, Esq., of Hesleyside, for the best dish of baking-apples, of sorts, the bronze medal.—To Mr. Anthony Hedley, gardener to Sir John Trevelyan, Bart., of Wallington, for the best dish of dessert-apples, of sorts, the second silver medal; and for the third-best variegated auricula in flower, the bronze medal.—To Mr. Thomas Wallis, gardener to Christopher Blackett, Esq., M.P., of Wylam Oak Wood, for the best dish of dessert pears, of sorts, the second silver medal; and for the best dish of early potatoes, the second silver medal.—To Mr. James Charlton, gardener to John Cookson, Esq., jun., of Benwell Lodge, for the best cactus in flower, the second silver medal; and for the third-best cactus in flower (*speciosus*), a small honorary bronze medal.—To Mr. James Reid, gardener to William Losh, Esq., of Little Benton, for the second best cactus in flower, the bronze medal.—To Mr. Anthony Langlands, of Bedlington, for the best variegated auricula in flower, the silver medal; and for the second best auricula in flower, the second silver medal.—To Mr. John Watson, gardener to M. Anderson, Esq., for the best brace of cucumbers, the second silver medal.—To Mr. Robert Charlton, of Wall, near Hexham, gardener, for the best double hyacinth from the open ground, the silver medal.—To Mr. George Maguire, gardener, Whitburn, for the second best double hyacinth from the open ground, the bronze medal.—To Mr. Isaac Scott, florist, Newcastle, for the best single hyacinth from the open ground, the second silver medal.—To Mr. William Kelly, gardener to A. Donkin, Esq., of Jesmond, for the second best single hyacinth from the open ground, the second bronze medal; for the best six jonquils, the second bronze medal; and for the second best exotic plant in flower, the bronze medal.—To Mr. John Watson, of Jesmond, for the best twelve flowers of *viola trichor*, of sorts, the bronze medal.—To Joseph Hetherington, Esq., of Wallsend, for the best polyanthus, the broze medal; and for the second best polyanthus, the second bronze medal.—To Mr. William Hall, of Gosforth gardens, for the best exotic plant in flower, the second silver medal.—To Mr. Thomas Charlton, gardener to Mrs. Atkinson, of Long Benton, for the best bouquet of flowers, the silver medal.—To Mr. James Taylor, gardener to B. O. Mitford, Esq., of Mitford Castle, for the second best bouquet, the bronze medal.—To. Mr. A. Gaskin, gardener to W. Butler, Esq., of Brunton, for the third best bouquet, a small honorary bronze medal.—To Mr. J. Clark, gardener to Mrs. Bewicke, of Close House, for a dish of dessert pears, an honorary bronze medal.—April 24.

The Rector of Gateshead, and the Revds. W. Bennet and T. Speck, will to-morrow preach three discourses in behalf of our Parochial Sunday Schools, in St. Mary's church, and St. Edmund's and Trinity chapels. There will, we trust, be good attendances, and liberal collections.—April 24.

The Treasurer of the Gateshead Dispensary has received the sum of £4 5s., being part of a collection made at St. Thomas's chapel, Newcastle, on Easter Monday, after a sermon preached by the Rev. Richard Clayton, before the Associated Order of "Foresters;" also 10s. from the gentlemen of the Grand Jury at Durham.

ALKALI-WORKS:—IMPORTANT DECISION.

Bell v. Allen & Others.—At the late Durham assizes, March 6, 1841, this action was ordered by the Court to be referred to George Hutton Wilkinson, Esq., the Recorder of Newcastle; and the reference was held on the 2d, 3d, 12th, and 13th of April, at the Turk's Head, Grey street.

The counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. Bell, were Messrs. Granger and Otter: attorney, Mr. Edward Griffiths, Newcastle. The counsel for the defendants, (Messrs. John Allen, William Cookson, and Thomas Coulthard, of the Heworth alkali-works,) were Messrs. Temple and Foot: attorney, Mr. Daniel Cookson.

Thirty-nine witnesses were examined on the part of the plaintiff, including Professor Johnston, of the Durham University, and H. G. Potter, Esq., of the Medical School, Newcastle; and on the part of the defendants, thirty witnesses were called, including Dr. Thomson, Professor of Chemistry in Glasgow University, and Thomas Richardson, &c., of Newcastle. The sittings occupied three and a half *double days*. The speech of Mr. Temple, in reply to the case of the plaintiff, occupied upwards of three hours; and that of Mr. Granger, in reply to the defendants' case, about two hours and a half.

The learned arbitrator made his award on Wednesday last, April 28. With regard to the defendants' alkali-works, he found, that although the condensing machinery which they had adopted was constructed on a principle which, under circumstances admitting of its perfect application to practice, would probably prove effectual to preclude the escape of noxious gases, yet they certainly had not succeeded in rendering it an effectual preventive of damage to the defendant; and he recommended certain expedients to remedy the defects in practice to which he alluded. From the evidence, and from his own inspection of the works, he was led to the conclusion that the condensing machinery, as applied in practice, was occasionally defective and ineffectual during the whole period which was the subject of his inquiry. He therefore gave his verdict for the plaintiff, with damages considerably exceeding the sum of £30 paid into court by the defendants. He also certified that the cause was a fit and proper one for a special jury.

Summerbell v. Allen & Others.—In this action, the defendants were the same, and the circumstances similar. The award in the former case, it was therefore agreed at the assizes, should determine whether or not the plaintiff had just cause to complain of the inefficiency of the defendants' condensing machinery. The award consequently confirms the verdict taken in his favour at the assizes; and, as it was then arranged, Mr. Andrew Stoddart will have to decide the amount of damage which he has sustained.

DURHAM-COUNTY COAL-COMPANY.

The adjourned meeting of the shareholders was held at the King's Head, Darlington, on Tuesday, April 27, (F. S. Stokes, Esq., in the chair,) and excited great interest, as will readily be supposed by those who read our report of the previous meeting. Amongst the company, besides the speakers named in our report, were Mr. Price (of this borough), Mr. M. Dunn, Mr. Brown, Mr. Allison, &c. &c.

From the revelations of Tuesday, it appears that in 1840 there was a loss of £1,823, or 2s. 5d. per chaldron, on Coxhoe colliery; £4,973 18s. 10d., or 5s. 2d. per chaldron, on Evenwood colliery; and £1,200 5s. 9d., or 2s. 2d. per chaldron, on Gordon colliery. A portion of the company's loss was also accounted for by the expense attendant on the winning of Whitworth colliery.

The report of the special committee was of considerable length, and confessed the inability of its framers to recommend any distinct step as to the law-proceedings in which the company was (or was likely to be) engaged. It therefore recommended the appointment of another committee, with an exclusive reference to this point. As to the financial affairs of the company, it recommended the abolition of the London Board Office, the reduction of the salaries of the directors, and other economical measures.

Mr. T. C. Gibson moved the adoption of the report, but withdrew his motion in favour of an amendment by Mr. Leadbitter, that it be received for discussion—which was unanimously passed.

Mr. Field then observed, that the committee had neglected one subject—the mode in which the company was formed, and the money of the shareholders obtained. He reminded the meeting that the directors had paid 12 per cent. at first: not out of the profits of the speculation, but out of the capital. The collieries of the company were sold to the concern by men who stood in the situation both of buyers and sellers. He was determined that the matter should go into chancery. No man should quietly take £400 out of his pocket, and give him in exchange what was not worth £50! Proceedings must be instituted against those parties who had practised double-dealing, being both buyers and sellers at the same time. It was shameful to think of men taking the money of the shareholders, and buying their own property, contrary to the interests

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of the company. They had given £60,000 for property which had been offered for £30,000. (Cries of "Hear, hear!" "Jonathan Wild had no chance with them!") At the time of purchasing Coxhoe colliery, he protested against it. He had a suspicion that the men who were going to sell would also be the buyers—and so it proved. It was said the company would realize £10,000 a-year—but the statements they had just heard showed how that promise had been realized. The parties must be proceeded against: they must be made to disgorge.

After a conversation respecting the connection of some gentlemen both with the Northern-Mining and the Durham-County Coal Company,

The Rev. G. Dixon addressed the meeting much in the same manner as Mr. Field, and commented severely on the conduct of the directors in sanctioning the (he had almost said) iniquitous proceedings to which allusion had been made. It appeared to him, from what he had heard that day, that the present depressed state of the company was owing principally to four different causes:—First, the collieries being purchased at too high a price; second, unnecessary expenses incurred in conveying coals along the Clarence railway; thirdly, extravagant salaries given to some of the officers; and fourth, the inefficient manner in which some of the officers discharged their duty; and when to these considerations was added the unfortunate dilemma in which they were placed with Mr. Barrett, with respect to Roddymoor, he did think the whole affair, from the very beginning, appeared to be little better than a tissue of manœuvring, chicanery, and deception; and so far as he was concerned he had no hesitation in pronouncing it one of the most barefaced jobs ever palmed on the credulity of mankind. The rev. gentleman concluded with a motion disqualifying all persons connected with the Northern Mining Company from the direction of the Durham County Coal Company.

Mr. Philips seconded the motion. Mr. Bell and Mr. Gibson opposed it. The latter gentleman said, he had only 60 shares in the Northern Company, and 500 in the other; yet the motion would exclude him from the direction of the Durham Company. Mr. G. concluded by deprecating proceedings in Chancery.

Mr. Leadbitter inquired if Mr. Gibson was not the "fitter" for the Northern Mining Company.

Mr. Gibson replied that he was, but he had given up an extensive business to become the fitter of the company.

Mr. Dixon said, after what had passed, he was willing to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Leeman said no one could doubt that there had been in the formation of the company a degree of deception practised on the proprietors, such as perhaps had never characterized any other company, and that subsequently there had been gross mismanagement on the part of many of those to whom was committed the direction of its concerns. With regard to Mr. Gibson, he was fully aware that gentleman had nothing to do with any of the matters to which allusion had been made. But still, nothing which had been said served to satisfy his mind that the motion of the rev. gentleman (Mr. Dixon) was not a proper one. Mr. Leeman concluded by moving the following proposition, which he was sure would meet the approval of a great majority of the shareholders present—"That this company has heard with indignation the exposition which has this day been made of the present position of the affairs of this company, which the meeting believes has arisen from gross deception on the part of those who originally projected the company, and the existence of personal and interested motives in many of those to whom have subsequently been committed the management of its concerns; and that this meeting sees no other means by which the interests of the proprietary can be protected than by the appointment of a body of directors who shall be perfectly disinterested, and who, while they fearlessly and independently seek for and aid in securing the redress of past grievances, will at the same time practise the greatest possible economy in its future management consistent with the true interests of the company."

Mr. Robinson seconded the motion.

Mr. Panton, jun., proposed, as an amendment, "that the recommendations made in the report of the special committee be adopted, and that steps be taken to carry the same into effect.'

Mr. Philips supported the amendment.

Mr. Andrews, in supporting the motion, expressed his surprise at Mr. Gibson speaking so discouragingly of law proceedings. The directors had called in nearly £240,000, and what had they to show for it? They had 40 acres of coal; they had Evenwood, a bad concern, as they all knew; they had Roddymoor—no, they had not Roddymoor, but they had paid for it; and they had Coxhoe, for which they paid too much. It was too bad to suppose that gentlemen could sit quietly down with such heavy losses.

A long discussion ensued, at the conclusion of which the motion and amendment were put to the vote, when Mr. Leeman's motion was carried by a very large majority.

The meeting then unanimously agreed, "That all such recommendations of the committee as are, in the opinion of the directors, for the benefit of the company, be carried into execution."

Mr. W. W. Bentley was elected Director in the place of Mr. Brown, who resigned; and Mr. Stokes was re-elected.

After thanks had been voted to the select committee, and to Messrs. Dunn, Reay, Leeman, and Stokes, the meeting separated having continued from mid-day until about half-past six.

The Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company met specially on Tuesday, at their office in the Close, to hear the provisions of the Bill now before Parliament for altering and extending their powers, (Matthew Plummer, Esq., in the chair). Mr. John Clayton read an abstract of the measure, which gives power to raise, in addition to monies already obtained and expended, the sum of not more than £200,000, by the sale of shares, or by subscriptions among themselves; and when this sum has been so raised, then they may borrow £100,000. The Bill also empowers the company to lay down branches to various places in Northumberland and Cumberland, and to occupy 80 acres of ground as depots, instead of 30, as at present. A motion was made to add a clause modifying the existing law as to votes. Five shares now give one vote—ten shares, two votes—fifteen shares, three—twenty shares, four—and no shareholder has more than four votes. Mr. Hall thought that the holder of a single share should have some weight in the management of his property; and after much discussion, it was resolved, that holders of five shares or under shall have single votes; and that every five shares shall give a vote, with this limitation—that no shareholder shall have more than ten votes. The business of the special meeting was now concluded, and that of the adjourned general meeting was therefore proceeded with. An altered table of rates was submitted for consideration. The Chairman stated, that from letters which had been received from the company's inspector, who was then in Scotland, they were likely to have an accession of revenue by linens from that country imported into Liverpool. By reducing the rates on this article they would be able to have it conveyed by way of Newcastle and Carlisle. They had also made a reduction in the charges for conveyance of slate, and for goods twice sea-borne, the rates now standing at 10s. per ton, instead of from 16s. to 17s. 6d. as formerly. In consequence of this latter reduction they would have a great many goods from the Baltic, and several places in the north of Europe. There were a good many slates brought from the counties of Cumberland and Lancashire, and the west side of Scotland; and in accordance with the suggestion of the inspector, they had reduced the rates on slates, and expected from that source a considerable increase of traffic. These were a few of the reductions which the directors had thought it proper to make, and it was necessary that they should have the sanction of the meeting.—The table having been agreed to, the Chairman went on to state, that the receipts for the week just past, exceeded those of the corresponding week in last year by £202; and he hoped it would go on in this way till the proportionate weekly increase was £1000. He would mention another subject: it was the opinion of the directors that the company should petition parliament with respect to the duty on passengers. At present they paid one penny for every passenger, which amounted to seven and a half per cent. On some lines it was only two and a half, and on others as high as ten per cent. If one general rate of five per cent. were established, it would work equally well for government, and would be a vast saving of trouble and expense to the company.—The bye-laws were now taken into consideration, with the modifications made by the Board of Trade. Nine of these bye-laws, which relate to penalties on passengers for smoking in the trains, refusing to deliver up tickets, &c., had been confirmed by the Board of Trade; but that Board declined to give its support to the tenth regulation,

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which bears reference to the company in their capacity of carriers, and clears them, in many cases, from being responsible for the safety of goods committed to their charge. Mr. Clayton said they could affix their seal to the nine clauses sanctioned by the Board, and adopt the tenth as a regulation of trade. Persons sending goods by the railway would be aware of the restrictions under which those goods were received, and they need not make use of the conveyance unless they chose to do so. Mr. Clayton's view of the matter was adopted, and the meeting adjourned to the 29th of June.—MAY 1.

The Rev. J. Davies, Rector of Gateshead, and the Revds. W. Bennet and T. Speck, preached respectively in St. Mary's church and St. Edmund's and Trinity chapels, Gateshead, on Sunday, April 25, in behalf of the Parochial Sunday Schools. The collections amounted to £15 3s. 3½d.

The Rev. J. Macalister, on Sunday last, preached an appropriate discourse from Ps. xcvi. 9, in Hanover-square chapel, Newcastle; after which the sum of £13 4s. 5½d. was collected in aid of the choir.—MAY 1.

A special general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle, was held in the Council-chamber in the Guildhall, on Wednesday last, (Joseph Lamb, Esq., the President of the Chamber, in the chair,) for the purpose of electing a Vice President and a Treasurer in the place of Matthew Plummer, Esq., resigned; and also a member of the Committee, should the new Vice President be taken from that body. The attendance of members was not so numerous as on the last occasion, but it included Alderman Brandling, V.P., Ald. Potter, the Sheriff of Newcastle, and Messrs. Armstrong, V.P., Charnley, Nichol, Crawhall, Palmer, Turner, Wylam, Jobling, Palmer, C. Smith, C. Rayne, T. Sowerby, M. Sorsbie, E. H. Campbell, Brockett, Hindhaugh, Ayton, &c., &c. Whilst the voting papers were being collected, the Secretary read a communication from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on the subject of the Corn Laws; and Mr. Brandling, V.P., took the opportunity of making a few observations on the subject of his retirement as a V.P. last year, in favour of Mr. Armstrong—explaining that he was convinced that the Secretary, in communicating with him upon the subject, had been solely actuated by a desire to promote the interests of the Chamber, knowing, as he did, the great value that was attachable to the talents and services of Mr. Armstrong: to which observations the Secretary replied in complimentary terms, thanking Mr Brandling for the explanation he had given. The lists being scrutinized, the President declared that Thomas Wilson, Esq., had been elected Vice President; the numbers being—For Mr. Wilson, 16 votes; for E. H. Campbell, Esq., 5; and for G. T. Dunn, Esq., 2. Alderman Potter then moved, that Mr. Wilson be also requested to accept the office of Treasurer to the Chamber, which was carried unanimously. A ballot was then taken for a committee-man, Mr. Wilson's election having caused a vacancy; when the choice of the Chamber was declared to have fallen on N. Hindhaugh, Esq., the votes being as follows:—For Mr. Hindhaugh, 13; for C. Allhusen, Esq., 4; and for R. P. Philipson, Esq., 4. The meeting was then dissolved.—MAY 1.

Gateshead Fell has now a "Popular Lecture and Musical Entertainment Society," in imitation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and this evening (May 1), Mr. R. W. Hetherington will deliver a lecture on Heat, in the National School; and Messrs. Snaith, Hann, Shotton, Dawson, Richardson, and Pattison, and Masters R. Ferry and C. Richardson, will give a selection of glees, songs, madrigals, &c. At South Shields, too, a similar society is in contemplation—in connection, we believe, with the Mechanics' Institute. This is well. A serious error has been committed, in overlooking the fact that the people require recreation as well as instruction. We are glad to find that there are symptoms of amendment in this matter.

The Newcastle Botanical and Horticultural Society will have exhibitions on the 4th of June, 2nd of July, 27th of August, and the 15th of October.

On Monday evening, between 7 and 8, a number of the Freemen of Newcastle, with others, assembled together on the Town Moor, for the purpose of filling up the shaft lately made there, to admit air to the tunnel which runs under the moor. In order to carry their scheme into effect, they procured a horse and cart; and, when our informant was on the moor, were busy bringing furze, mould, and other things, from different parts, and filling up the hole. Two or three policemen were on the spot; but as the "freemen" were on their own property, all the officers ventured to do was to interfere in the skirmishes of words—and sometimes blows—that took place between the freemen and some of the bystanders, who condemned their proceeding. There were nearly a hundred persons altogether assembled. The reason assigned for the conduct of the parties who thus acted was, that the Herbage Committee, who had authorized the making of the shaft, had not asked the consent of the whole of the freemen.—MAY 1.

TO THE REV. THOMAS FINCH, MORPETH.

REV. SIR,—I had reserved for another opportunity the right I possess, as a ratepayer, of commenting upon your appointment to the Chaplaincy of the County Gaol, Morpeth. It was my intention then to have questioned how far it was judicious to place such an important trust in the hands of an individual who has already so many calls upon his religious dispensations. However, I am compelled to address you more immediately, in consequence of what took place at the last meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Morpeth Union.—You must be aware that there is a large pauper establishment within your parish—within the town where you reside—which is continually occupied by a considerable number of the aged, the infirm, and the destitute of our fellow-creatures. In my capacity of a Guardian of that asylum, I opposed a motion, made last Wednesday, to grant some remuneration to the Rev. S. B. Maughan, curate of Hebron, for attending to the spiritual wants of the paupers. At a previous meeting of the Board, a vote of thanks was passed to that gentleman for his gratuitous services in the workhouse. I cordially joined in that vote; but I am sorry Mr. Maughan's friends were so indiscreet as to moot the subject of a stipend for the future: such a proposition was calculated to create a suspicion, that the nice little salaries which you have lately obtained, had conjured up the sordid spirit of Mammon in the breast of your reverend brother. I am sure that you, Sir, are not one of those who believe that such a vote had for its view, some approaching object of emolument or ambition: any recommendation which Mr. Maughan's labours amongst the paupers could convey to those who had the disposal of the chaplaincy of the gaol, might have been equally shared by yourself—but you do not appear to have thought that the binding up the spiritual sores of a Lazarus would pave the way to the prison pulpit. In becoming a candidate for such a chair of theology, you despised a diploma gained in the school of adversity.—What must we consider as the cause of your indifference? Why have the paupers in the workhouse at Morpeth—8-10ths of whom are your parishioners—been deprived of the benefit of your religious instructions? You patronize a print that has more than once held up the Guardians of the Morpeth workhouse as cruel and inhumane—dare you declare in that print, that *you* have done your duty to those who are so unfortunate as to be domiciled within its walls? Will you tell the friends of the poor man's church, in the column of the *Newcastle Journal* headed "Clerical and Religious," how often you have laboured to fortify the minds of your wretched people pent up in the Morpeth "Bastile"? how you have taught them Christian resignation, and prepared them for another world, by patient endurance of the woes of this?—Must I lay aside my pen, and wait your answer? Yes, Sir, I would do so, but for a *postulatum* which I cannot yield up for a week—nay, for a day; that is, *You are a minister of the Christian faith.* Forgive me for making such a gratuitous assumption. I call upon you to confirm it. You cannot be ignorant of the charge which the blessed Founder of Christianity imposed upon those whom he sent forth to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation. He did not turn aside from the poor, the maimed, and the blind. He was no respecter of persons. His injunctions to the Seventy whom he sent out by two and two, to preach, were:—"*Carry neither purse nor scrip nor shoes, and salute no man by the way.*" You do not, Sir, suppose that the poor old emaciated creatures who moan upon the narrow pallet of a parish poorhouse, without a friend in the wide world to comfort them, are excluded from the solicitude of our universal Saviour? Are the fatherless and the widow in their misery beneath His notice?—Then, why are the ratepayers called upon

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to hire the clergyman of another parish to perform those duties which belong to you? You either will not, or you cannot, visit the workhouse.—To say that you cannot, because of the fewness of the labourers for the harvest, would ill become a husbandman who has just taken a foreign field to reap; and it would be a gross libel upon the well-known generosity of your ecclesiastical superior, to say that he sent you to stand in other market-places for hire, that his own income of £1,700 from tithes and oblations may be secure from any demands which your necessities might make upon it? You cannot say that the Rev. Frederick Ekins has too great a living, and the Rev. Thomas Finch too small a one, and yet stand aloof from those who advocate a more equal distribution of the loaves and fishes of the Church? You cannot say that you became an apostle to the castaway for the mere love of sixty paltry pounds a-year, while you are the curate of the rich living of Morpeth?—Would not the great Apostle of the Gentiles have laboured with his hands as a tentmaker to the end of his days, rather than have subjected the primitive church to such a charge of selfishness?

Do not, Sir, I pray you, take offence at my observations. If I have somewhat unceremoniously entered the clerical repository, and roused you up with "a long pole" from your sloth, to make you perform your part, it is because I am a partner in the concern; and while I contribute a single farthing towards an establishment that has been got up to gratify, amuse, or instruct the public, not a single performance shall be neglected without a public reproof.—Look, Sir, into the workhouse at Morpeth. The greater portion of the inmates are of your flock—naked and destitute; but let not their want of a *fleece* lessen their value in your estimation. Call not away the pastor of another people to lead your sick and famishing to green pastures—he, humble man, has the feet of his own poor to wash, and their *heads to anoint*. Do not wait until the Guardians petition the Rector of Morpeth to coax you in, by an increase of pay—do not allow the portals of the gate to proclaim, that these people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; and that the bread of spiritual life is doled within by a more niggard hand than even that which distributes the scanty pittance of a temporal existence.—I am, Rev. Sir, your obedient servant,

Bywell, April 24th, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

THE WILLINGTON COLLIERY EXPLOSION

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—From the report of this lamentable event, in your paper of the 24th inst., it appears that 32 immortal and accountable beings were hurried in a moment into eternity, and that there are left to mourn and to suffer, 4 widows, 12 fatherless children, and one orphan, besides parents and others deprived by this stroke of those who might have been their stay and comfort—"a loss (you justly remark) never to be *made up* by any kindness:"—though I hope they will meet with that sympathy and aid which their bereavements so justly entitle them to.

Reflecting on such a mournful occurrence, the inquiry is natural—Is every thing done, every precaution taken, that can be, to prevent such *accidents?* From the inquest taken on view of the bodies of the sufferers, and from the evidence then and there produced, as reported in your and other papers, the affirmative *cannot be sustained*. Every investigation which such events have given rise to, whether before coroners' juries or a parliamentary commission, goes *to prove*, that *perfect* and *continuous* VENTILATION is of *first importance*, and, in fact the only real preventive of these dreadful visitations, all other efforts being evidently subservient. On this principle, *safety lamps* have been argued against—how justly I say not—as tending to relax that *vigilance* which the prime subject of ventilation always requires. More than one or two of these desolations have been ascribed to this cause—and to the lamps in the hands of reckless and brutish individuals. This abuse is now, I believe, guarded against in many pits where they are used, by locks to the lamps, under the charge of careful persons, who prepare and give them to the men as they go down to work; and thus secured, I agree with yourself and the editor of the *Tyne Mercury*, they should be *always* used, and not candles.

But there is another feature in this case, of much greater importance, as inseparably connected with *continued ventilation*, to which sufficient attention has never yet been paid. From the report it appears that 4 boys (*children*) of 9 years of age, 2 of 10, 1 of 11, and 1 of 13 years, *trap-door-keepers*, are amongst the dead, and that one of the youngest is *conjectured* to have been the unfortunate cause of this calamity, by propping open his trapdoor whilst he went *to play* with some other children-trappers—whereby VENTILATION was, *pro tempore* and *pro tanto*, DESTROYED: say 70 yards in length, and 4 yards in breadth. Now let us calmly look at the facts in this case. It is stated *in the report*, that the trappers and putters remain 4 or 5 hours *after* the hewers are gone, (that the workings may be cleared for the next shift); and I am informed that they are commonly about 13 hours from bank to bank, as they go down (say) at 3 o'clock in the morning, and come to bank again at 4, next afternoon, (it may vary a little, perhaps, in that pit). So much for time.

But what is their situation, work, &c. They are placed 140 fathoms below ground—without any light—in a dark rolleyway, through which the putters pass with the coals from the "workings" to the head of an incline, to be taken to the shaft and to bank. Their work is not *active*, but of the most sedentary and monotonous kind—merely to pull open a trap-door, which will shut of itself, to let the putters pass. It is therefore evident that these *boys* are required to denude themselves of all propensities *natural to their years*, for 12 or 13 hours at a time, and to assume the habits of age, or "a few minutes of *boyish neglect* may produce the destruction of all around them." The witnesses state, that all in the pit are aware of *the danger* arising from the trap-doors being neglected, and that the deputies often *warn the boys* to look well to their doors:—but what is *warning* to so young a lad, unless he can assume the care of age? This, therefore, it is palpably evident, is a post of the *utmost importance;* and if neglected, neutralizes every other precaution, and *destroys* ventilation, though otherwise perfect.

Justly, therefore, might the editor of the *Tyne Mercury* remark on "the extreme impropriety of employing boys of 9 or 10 years of age to keep the trap-door, on which the lives of all in the pit depend." I am informed that in some pits, boys of 8 and 7 years, and even less, are so employed:—"Aw've knawn bairns hardly se high as this teable sent dowa the pit to keep a trap-door:"—that in winter they seldom see the light of the sun, except on Sundays, or when the pit is laid off: and that it is no uncommon thing for the putters to carry a switch, to "*teach*" the trappers, if they catch them *sleeping*, or off their post! Certainly nothing but want, arising from dissipation, or the basest cupidity, can drown the ordinary feelings of humanity, and lead parents thus to sacrifice their children. But the owners, viewers, &c., ought never to *permit*, much less to encourage it; for in addition to the *utterly unjustifiable risk*, let us glance for a moment at its extreme cruelty and injustice to the children themselves. Condemnation to the mines has ever been considered a severe punishment for offences of a high social or political character; and solitary confinement, as sometimes practised in some of the *prisons* about the metropolis as a *punishment*, has been denounced for its cruelty in both Houses of Parliament, in no measured terms, though inflicted for *crime*, and is calculated to produce idiotcy or madness in its subjects. But here are boys—*children*—guilty of no crime—condemned to the mines—to utter darkness—to solitary confinement, day by day for 12 or 13 hours, only broken by the monotony of *watching*, or the opening and shutting of a trap-door, or a switch—in their tenderest years—before either body or mind has received *any tone*—condemned to *put off* their *own nature*, and assume the feelings and habits of old men—and *charged* with the lives of scores of their fellow-beings! How can it be otherwise then that such should be feeble and *stunted*, in both body and mind? Where is exercise for the one, or improvement for the other? What can well exceed its cruelty to them, or its injustice to those *exposed to destruction* from such employment?

This post, of trap-door-keeping, view it in what light we please, is only fit to be entrusted to elderly men, to whom hard work is becoming oppressive—who know, from long experience, the *importance* of the *charge*—who may have acquired, more or less, mental resources, and to whom, at all events, long confirmed habits have made it easy and familiar. I am informed, and trust it is true to the letter, or beyond, that in the Wallsend pits, Mr. Buddle employs only such for this trust, giving them a cot and firing, and 5s. or 6s. per week. How it is in the Killingworth collieries, I know not; but the owners have set an example worthy of general imitation, by the erection of an In-

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fant and Day School, for the education of the children of their workmen. It will be some consolation if this destructive event arouse the attention of more competent persons, so that this serious evil may be put an end to for ever. Earnestly praying that this may be the case,

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
A DISINTERESTED OBSERVER.

Newcastle, April 29th, 1841.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	p Cout, Joseph	p Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	p Hymers, Jas.	Rowntree, W.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	p Kenmir, Wm.	Sowerby, G.
p Hall, Michael	Fairbairn, J.	p Lister, John	p Swan, Walker
p Pollock, James	Forster, S.	p Potts, John	Wight, John
p Wilson, Thos.		p Revely, T.	Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked p were present.]

THE Council met in the town hall, Oakwellgate, on Wednesday last.—The TOWN CLERK having read the proceedings of the previous meeting, permission was given to Mr. C. J. Pearson, builder, to carry a railway bridge over Pipewellgate, in order to form a continuation of a road from his limekilns to the riverside; but on the motion of Ald. HALL, seconded by Mr. DAVIS, it was resolved that he be required to pay an annual acknowledgment of 5s., and construct a parapet for the protection of the public from danger and annoyance.

The next question which came before the Council was the propriety of forming an additional footpath in Cannon-street, (viz., on the south side,) as recommended by the Footpath Committee.—Confirmed.

The Water Company, it was determined, should be required to pay an acknowledgment of 2s. 6d. for each of the "pants' which they have put down in the borough. No future pant to' be erected, except under the sanction and direction of the Footpath Committee. Mr. KENMIR remarked, that the pant lately placed at the foot of West-street was constructed on a new principle—the principle of a dry well. (Laughter.)

A borough-rate of a halfpenny in the pound was lev ied for the ensuing quarter.

By a report from the Railway Committee, it appeared that the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company had reluctantly proceeded to the restoration of the Pothouse-wateringplace, but in a very inadequate manner. The negotiations had been in progress since November, 1836, and had proceeded (as Ald. WILSON remarked) at anything but "railway speed." After much inexcusable delay, the work was now executing very unsatisfactorily; and the Railway Committee hoped that the Council would take warning from this affair how they again placed the rights of the public at the mercy of a Railway Company.

Mr. KENMIR moved, that the Company be compelled to give as good a watering-place as the public had previously possessed—that it be at least 25 feet wide—or that the old watering-place be restored.

Mr. COUT seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

The council proceeded to the consideration of the proposed bye-laws.

This local code of laws, which was of considerable length, was read, discussed, and finally adopted, and ordered to be in force from the 5th of July next, on the motion of Ald. POLLOCK, seconded by Ald. HALL.

A communication was read from Mr. Hutt, stating that he had received and would present the petition for the removal of Jewish disabilities; and the TOWN CLERK stated that the Duke of Cleveland had presented the petition to the Lords.

The TOWN CLERK also stated that he had received a communication from the Brandling Railway Company, to the effect that they had ordered their enginemen to refrain from using the whistle, or letting off steam, in passing over West-street and High-street.

The Market Committee reported, that Mr. E. Walker, who had a lease of the shop at the bridge-end, was anxious to be cleared of his lease, on receiving £90, the amount of improvements he had made; and that the market committee having declined acceding to this request, but stated their desire to accommodate him by permitting him to sublet, he had stated that he had found a person who would take the lease off his hands, if the Council would grant him a licence for a spirit shop; to which the Market Committee had replied, that the Council had no such power—it rested with the Magistrates.

Mr. KENMIR inquired, if the £9 due from Mr. Walker for fixtures had been paid; which being replied to in the negative, Ald. BROCKETT moved, and Mr. COUT seconded, that the Town Clerk be instructed to procure immediate payment for the same—which was carried.

Ald. BROCKETT then brought forward his motion, according to notice, on the County Rate. He said that the details he would give would render argument unnecessary. He found by the accounts of the Treasurer for the County of Durham, that the county rate for the last year, at 5d. per pound, amounted to £16,225 12s. 5d. That there were expended £1,019 in repairs of bridges, not one of which were in the borough of Gateshead; £441 in repairs of roads at ends of bridges, of which £22 was for "High Team bridge and four others;" £2,153 for prosecutions in 156 cases, of which 3 cases, and £44 expenses, attached to Gateshead, (£29 13s. having been paid to Messrs. Kell & Apedaile, and £14 16s. to Mr. Kenmir); £1,091 for coroners, of which £368 was for Chester ward, but the sum attaching to Gateshead itself was not named; £159 for conveying 17 convicts to London; £83 for vagrants, and here Gateshead had a pretty large share, for £21 had been paid for removing Scotch and Irish poor; £656 for conveyance of prisoners to gaol; £1,846 for maintenance, lighting, washing, &c., of prisoners; £467 for clothing and bedding; £853 for materials of gaol; £1,650 for salaries and wages; £589 for law-officers; £80 for police expenses; £80 for expenses of new assessment; £493 for printing and advertising; £252 for charges respecting lunatic asylums; £345 for miscellaneous charges; £405 for allowances to chief-constables for collecting county rate; and £3,745 for initiatory expenses of police force, subsequent expenses being defrayed by a separate rate, from which Gateshead was exempt; altogether leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £2,475 8s. 11d., whereas the balance at the begining of the year was only £513. Now, he (Mr. B.) put it to the Council whether it was fair and right that the people of Gateshead, and the ratepayers of counties generally, should have no voice in the management and outlay of these immense sums. The Legislature had deemed it right, and it was right, that the people should have a controul over their borough rate; yet, strange to say, the borough rate of Gateshead only amounted last year to £277 5s. 8d., whereas the county rate amounted to £561 18s. 5d. He thought this was sufficient to procure their assent to his resolution—that a petition be presented to the House of Commons, praying that ratepayers of counties, as well as the constituencies of boroughs, should have a controul over the mnnicipal county funds, which they were obliged to provide.

The motion was seconded by Mr. KENMIR, and carried unanimously.

The following is the petition, (which was ordered to be sent to Mr. Hutt):—

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Gateshead,

Humbly sheweth,—That the inhabitants of counties have no control over the expenditure of the county-rates, which are imposed upon them and disbursed at the discretion of a Magisterial Executive in whose appointment they have no votee.

That your petitioners consider that the inhabitants of counties are as well entitled as the constituencies of boroughs to control the municipal funds which the law obliges them to provide.

That, therefore, your petitioners pray your Honourable House to take the case into your consideration, and grant the ratepayers of counties that due portion of power over the expenditure of their own money, which, according to the practice as well as spirit of the Constitution, seems to be justly their due.

And your petitioners, &c.

The MAYOR said that he quite agreed with the petition, but he thought the situation of Gateshead required that it should have a court of quarter sessions of its own, and then it would be free from much of the county rate. He had mentioned this before, and some calculations had been made, showing that a separate sessions would cause a great outlay in maintenance of prisoners, &c.; but he was more convinced than ever, that it would still be most advantageous.

The TOWN CLERK said, that a great portion of the expense of prosecutions consisted in the travelling expenses of witnesses to Durham.

Ald. BROCKETT then said, he had another subject to bring forward. In strictness, notice was required; and if, after

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hearing the petition to the House of Commons, which he would read, the Council thought notice requisite, he would give it; but time was precious, and he had worded the petition in a way which, he hoped, would express their unanimous opinions. It was a petition in support of the Government propositions for the consideration of the Corn Laws and Import Duties generally, with a view to their amendment. Mr. B. then read the following petition:—

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Gateshead,

Humbly sheweth,—That the laws affecting the importation of corn, as well as the duties on imports generally, have been found, by experience, to be defective, partial, and injurious.

That your petitioners, therefore, pray your Honourable House will be pleased to take both the Corn Law and the Tariff of Import Duties into your immediate consideration, with a view to such modifications and reductions as may be best calculated to preserve and advance the general interests of the British empire.

And your petitioners, &c.

Ald. POLLOCK moved, and Ald. WILSON seconded, the suspension of the standing orders, which was carried; and the petition having been formally moved by Ald. BROCKETT, and seconded by Mr. REVELY, was adopted unanimously, and ordered to be presented by Mr. Hutt. The Council then adjourned to June 9th.—MAY 8.

THE ROTHBURY UNION.

ON the 30th April, a special meeting of the Guardians was held at Rothbury, for the purpose of electing a Relieving-Officer in the place of the late Mr. Boag, the affecting circumstances of whose death were recently recorded in the *Gateshead Observer*. WILLIAM ORDE, Esq., of Nunnykirk, was the Chairman of the Board; and there were about forty Guardians present, including the Rev. C. G. V. Harcourt, B.A., Rector of Rothbury, and Edward Clavering, Esq., of Callaly Castle. There were several candidates for the vacant office, and the CHAIRMAN proceeded to read their respective testimonials.

Mr. HARCOURT whilst this part of the business was in progress, rose and charged Mr. Woodman, the Clerk of the Union, with certain departures from his duty. The reverend gentleman was interrupted by cries of "Order, order," "Question, question," "Proceed to the business of the day," &c.; but he persisted in the course upon which he had entered, and was supported by some few of the Guardians. Warm words were uttered on both sides, and not least seldom by the Rector. Silence being at length obtained,

The CHAIRMAN said, that in consequence of a melancholy event, which they all (with a few unenviable exceptions) so deeply deplored, they were met to elect a Relieving Officer for this Union. He had studiously avoided using any influence to bias the votes of the Guardians in support of any particular candidate. Had he exerted any such influence, he would have exceeded that duty which he owed them as their Chairman. His position in society might have given him weight over certain votes, but he scorned to avail himself of such a power. He would leave every man to his own unfettered judgment. Upon the character of the relieving officer depended, in a great measure, the beneficial operations of the present Poor Law upon the destitute. Therefore, they had a high duty to perform to their country, and he hoped they would select a man whom they considered best qualified to fill the office.

Nominations were now made as follows:—

Mr. JOHN HOPPER, of Rothbury, (by Mr. George Rand, of Framlington, seconded by Mr. Thomas Shotton, of Rothbury).

Mr. GEORGE TURNBULL, (by Mr. William Redhead, of Ryehills, seconded by Mr. Robert Carr, of the Hirst).

Mr. MARK FORSTER, of Rothbury, (by Mr. Thomas Howey, of Little Tosson, seconded by Mr. Bolam, of Trewhitt).

Mr. WILLIAM COWENS, of Caistron, (by Mr. Nicholson, of Farnham, seconded by Mr. James Howey, of Carterside).

The Guardians proceeded to the vote, and the following result was declared by the Chairman:—

Mr. Hopper	18	Mr. Forster	3
Mr. Cowens	16	Mr. Turnbull	3

There was now a second storm.—For the township of Whitton there had been a double return, in the persons of Mr. Thomas Redhead and Mr. Thomas Robinson; and Whitton was consequently deprived of a representative at the Board of the Union. Mr. Readhead, however, was in the room, and the RECTOR insisted that he was entitled to vote. Mr. CLAVERING remarked, that Mr. Readhead's title was not a whit more valid than that of Mr. Robinson. If Mr. Redhead could attend and vote, so could Mr. Robinson; yet the township of Whitton could not have two Guardians at the Board. It was clear, under the circumstances, that neither Mr. Redhead nor Mr. Robinson could take part in the proceedings of the Union. Mr. HARCOURT remained unconvinced, and called upon the Chairman to put it to the meeting whether or not Mr. Redhead had a right to vote. The CHAIRMAN replied, that he could not consistently put such a question to the meeting; because, when the law disqualified a person from acting as a Guardian, no vote of the Board could set aside that disqualification.—In this decision of the Chairman, a majority of the Guardians acquiesced, and a most discreditable "scene" ensued. The RECTOR approached the chair in a menacing attitude, and accused Mr. Orde of partiality—declared that he was imbecile and a blackguard, and that he (Mr. Harcourt) would no longer act with him as a Magistrate. Mr. ORDE, who had hitherto preserved the most perfect equanimity in his trying situation, now retorted upon his reverend assailant, and sarcastically inquired who would buy the Rector of Rothbury, as he wished he were rid of him—would any one have him for nothing? (Cries of "No, no," "Turn him out," "He's no credit to the parish," "There's worse folks here than the Rector," "Ye shan't put him out," &c.) The RECTOR persisted in pressing his motion; and the CHAIRMAN again declining to put it, the accusation of partiality was repeated. The RECTOR said he would put the motion himself; whereupon, Mr. CLAVERING (who seemed astonished at Mr. Harcourt's conduct) rose and said that he should not put the motion—he should not interfere with the duties of the Chairman. But Mr. HARCOURT would put the motion; and five hands (including Mr. Readhead's) were held up in its favour. Mr. CLAVERING quitted the room in evident disgust.

Mr. HOPPER, who was now called in, and apprised of his election, briefly thanked the Guardians for their decision.

The RECTOR returned to the attack upon Mr. Woodman, whom he accused of some dereliction of duty, in his capacity of Magistrates' Clerk.

The CHAIRMAN said, that if Mr. Harcourt had any charge of such a nature to bring against Mr. Woodman, this was not the proper place. Mr. Woodman ought also to have had sufficient notice of the nature of the charge. Mr. HARCOURT said he was confident of substantiating the charges which he would bring forward, as they would be supported by the valuable testimony of a highly respectable individual, of the name of John Watson, (sexton and constable of the parish). He then read over a list of charges from the deposition of Watson, which concluded with words said to have been used by Mr. Woodman to Watson, viz., "Now you may go and tell that to the scoundrel who lives upon the hill."

The CHAIRMAN asked who it was that was meant by the "scoundrel on the hill." (Great laughter.)

Mr. WOODMAN having applied to the chair for permission to speak, challenged the reverend gentleman to bring before a competent tribunal the charges which he had against him. He had too long submitted to the cowardly attacks of the Rector, who seemed to consider that his profession of a clergyman enabled him to use language, and to make charges, which no other gentleman could make with impunity. He appealed to the Guardians of this Union whether they could impute any thing unjust or improper to him, whilst he had held the situation of their Clerk. He appealed to all who knew him—he appealed to the inhabitants of the town in which he was born and brought up—whether they thought him capable of committing such acts as the reverend gentleman had to-day charged him with. (The RECTOR rose, and interrupted Mr. Woodman in his address, but was loudly called upon by the Board to resume his seat.) Mr. WOODMAN resumed, and asked whether it was likely that he would subject himself to such charges in the face of such an individual as Watson—who was well known to possess the confidence of Mr. Harcourt. He again dared the reverend gentleman to impugn his character. Let him not rely on his aristocratic birth—let him not calculate on gaining a victory upon such grounds, over an humble individual like himself; for though he had again and again launched forth his slanderous assertions to malign his character, he would tell him that there were tribunals in this country before which he himself might be dragged to answer to a jury of his countrymen for conduct which no Englishman could tolerate. Yes! he might find himself in a situation where justice would prevail—where neither the contemptible emissaries whom he employed as his tools in the work of defamation, nor his own profession of a clergyman, would screen him from the punishment of a public slanderer. Mr. W. concluded by declaring himself ready at any time to meet the strictest scrutiny into his conduct as a professional man.

Mr. HARCOURT replied to Mr. Woodman with his usual politeness, by a flat charge of falsehood.

Mr. GEORGE STOREY, of Caistron, thought Mr. Harcourt had surely seen enough of the consequences of such conduct as he was now pursuing. The letter of the late Mr. Boag, which had been published in the newspapers, had created a feeling of disgust throughout the country against the conduct of Mr. Harcourt. It was easy to see from it by whom he was driven to despair.

Mr. HARCOURT here said the letter was not published in full.

Mr. STOREY replied, that in the *Gateshead Observer* it was.

Mr. HARCOURT: Yes, in the *Gateshead Observer*.

Mr. STOREY: Well! had Mr. Harcourt no compunctious visitings? Had he no gratitude in his breast? Had he forgotten when he was mistrustful of his own servants—when he dared not even partake of food which was served up at his own table—when he was afraid of being poisoned, and frequently called on Mr. Boag, then living at Trewhitt, (before the blasts of adversity had compelled him to bend beneath the withering influence of clerical persecution,) and there partook of that kind hospitality for which his late unfortunate friend was so well known.

Mr. HARCOURT denied the statement of Mr. Storey, amid cries of "It's a fact! it's true!"

Mr. THOMAS READHEAD here asked if he might be heard.

Mr. HARCOURT: Yes, certainly, and vote too.

Mr. READHEAD now spoke, and accused Mr. Storey of being the principal cause of the opposition to his election.

Mr. STOREY flatly contradicted the assertion of Mr. Readhead.

Here, again, Mr. HARCOURT called upon the Guardians to acknowledge Mr. Readhead as a member of the Board, and reiterated his accusation of partiality against the Chairman: he also spoke of applying to the Court of Queen's Bench for a *mandamus* to compel the Board to do

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their duty. The reverend gentleman went on to assail Sir John Walsham, the Assistant Commissioner, and to disparage the New Poor Law; after which, he alluded to the return of Mr. Walter for Nottingham, which he looked upon as the commencement of a new era, in which the incongruous fabric of the new law would be shaken to its very foundation.

Mr. W. Forster, of Burradon, the Vice Chairman, remarked that he would gladly render the Rector any assistance in his power to repeal the existing law—he would join in a petition to the Legislature to that effect. The Rector was relaxing into a smile, when the Vice Chairman added:—He would also recommend, that a memorial to the Lord Chancellor be got up immediately, to remove the Rector of Rothbury from the commission of the peace. (Applause.)

The Chairman dissolved the meeting, and retired, followed by the greater portion of the Guardians.

The Rector, it is stated, afterwards placed himself in the chair, and requested the few who remained to furnish him with any facts within their knowledge as to the conduct of the late Relieving Officer.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE COAL TRADE.

The latest Parliamentary Return of Coals, Cinders, and Culm, shipped at the various ports of the kingdom, *coastwise*, to other ports of the kingdom, supplies us with the following details:—

Port of Shipment.	Year 1839.			Year 1840.		
	Coals.	Cinders.	Culm.	Coals.	Cinders.	Culm.
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Gloucester	74,667	..	119	105,118	..	650
Cardiff	145,057	..	..	162,061	222	..
Newport	469,644	1,176	..	482,214	184	..
Swansea	227,462	38	259,292	213,228	562	246,411
Llanelly	114,143	..	27,646	151,750	..	41,619
Whitehaven ...	435,129	97	3,962	420,385	32	2,962
Carlisle	49,852	183	106	50,250	289	..
Berwick	1,259	..	..	659	..	..
Newcastle	2,149,814	9,507	..	2,267,082	14,261	..
Sunderland....	913,394	566	..	867,777	451	..
Stockton	1,368,778	..	..	1,367,532	..	..
Goole	132,475	..	..	146,376	..	..
Borrowstoness .	125,789	394	..	130,483	125	..
Glasgow	100,922	96	20	86,714	213	192
Irvine	248,417	..	..	252,976	..	..

The total quantity of *coal* shipped coastwise in the United Kingdom, in 1839, was 6,873,030 tons—in 1840, 7,111,461: *cinders*, in 1839, 13,015 tons—in 1840, 16,807: *culm*, in 1839, 336,968 tons—in 1840, 347,609.

Our next table gives the quantities *exported* to foreign countries and the British settlements abroad—chiefly to France, Holland, Denmark, Germany, Prussia, Russia, Guernsey, &c.

Port of Shipment.	Year 1839.			Year 1840.		
	Coals.	Cinders.	Culm.	Coals.	Cinders.	Culm.
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
London	26,547	93	..	26,627	58	..
Bristol	6,874	..	..	8,787	..	..
Gloucester	3,058	..	..	2,290	..	..
Cardiff	4,843	36	..	3,826	..	..
Newport	13,035	..	..	7,115	141	..
Swansea	25,291	..	393	32,911	..	178
Llanelly	24,890	..	..	19,275	..	..
Chester	3,921	..	..	2,986	..	..
Liverpool	103,582	48	..	109,546	..	..
Whitehaven ..	22,616	..	..	24,288	..	30
Carlisle	2,432	..	..	1,929	..	..
Berwick	1,285	87	..	1,069	..	..
Newcastle	543,846	14,206	..	583,041	10,870	..
Sunderland....	369,882	738	..	442,095	892	..
Stockton	110,019	1,688	..	131,217	1,625	..
Hull.....	28,423	3	..	29,344	5	..
Goole	4,614	188	..	3,026	..	..
Leith	18,356	10	..	17,872	80	..
Borrowstoness .	33,029	..	..	39,339	..	..
Grangemouth..	11,151	..	..	10,767	..	..
Kirkaldy	7,138	..	..	10,870	5	..
Greenock	15,955	56	..	27,312	..	..
Port Glasgow..	3,768	..	..	4,645	..	..
Glasgow	20,723	10	..	25,072	54	..
Irvine	19,224	..	..	19,126	..	..
Dublin	1,329	..	..	1,190	..	..

The total shipment of *coal* to places abroad, in 1839, was 1,431,861 tons—in 1840, 1,592,283: *cinders*, in 1839, 17,163 tons—in 1840, 13,783: *culm*, in 1839, 393 tons—in 1840, 247.

The export duties received in 1840 were:—On coal exported in foreign ships, £4,763 17s. 2d.: on cinders, £10 0s. 5d. On coal exported (to foreign countries) in British ships, £2,148 10s. 9d.: on cinders, £55 11s. 9d.: on culm, 3d.

The coal brought into London, in 1839, was as follows:—Coastwise, 2,625,323 tons: by inland navigation 12,933. In 1840:—Coastwise, 2,566,899 tons: by inland navigation, 22,188.

The Queen, having received from the amiable Mr. Alston, of Glasgow, a copy of his Bible for the blind, has acknowledged the present through the Marquis of Normanby. His Lordship, in his letter to Mr. Alston, says:—

"Her Majesty has commanded me to convey to you her sense of the great benefit conferred by you upon that portion of her Majesty's subjects whom it has pleased the Almighty so severely to visit, by placing within their attainment the knowledge of those sacred truths from which they can derive their best consolation under their affliction in this world, and their surest hope in that which is to come. Her Majesty is pleased to accept the volumes which you have transmitted, and to express her hope that so charitable an undertaking may be amply blessed."

The Government Commissioners, to whom was entrusted the duty of inquiring into the best line of railway communication between the North of England and the metropolis of Scotland, say in their last report:—

We are led to believe, from all the information we have been enabled to collect, that the amount of traffic which, in the present state of the commercial and other relations of England and Scotland, may be expected between Edinburgh and Glasgow and the south, is not such as would be likely to afford an adequate return for the outlay of capital required for the construction of two distinct lines of railway—the one from Darlington to Edinburgh, and the other from Lancaster to Glasgow. Were this otherwise, we should subdivide the question into two branches, and consider, in the first instance, which of the several lines would be the most suitable for a communication by Lancaster to Glasgow, as well as to the West of Scotland, and to the North of Ireland, and which would be the best route by Newcastle to Edinburgh. Under such circumstance, we should have awarded the preference to the east coast line, whether deviated or not between the two last-named places, and have weighed the merits of the various routes to Glasgow; but seeing the extent of capital that would be required for the construction of two distinct trunk lines, the one to Edinburgh and the other to Glasgow, we feel under the necessity of recommending, at present, the construction of one line only; and after a careful review of all the circumstances of this important question, we give the preference to the line from Carlisle by Lockerby, Beatock, Lanark, and Hamilton, to Glasgow, with a branch from Thankerton or Symington to Edinburgh, as being a general route which would fulfil the greater number of requisites in the railway communication under consideration. We give this opinion, however, under the supposition that antecedently to the construction of this line, the railway shall have been formed between Lancaster and Carlisle, or that both lines should be undertaken nearly simultaneously; but should this not be the case, and parties should be found to construct the line from Darlington to Edinburgh, then the western route ought to be abandoned for the present, and in that event we should award the preference to the east coast line over the Hexham line.

A special meeting of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowner's Society was held on Wednesday last, in the Trinity Hall, Newcastle, (by permission of the Worshipful the Trinity Master,) to consider the proposition of government with respect to the Timber Duties, (Charles Smith, Esq., the President of the Society, in the Chair,) when the following petition was adopted, and ordered to be sent to the town Members for presentation to the House of Commons:—

"That your petitioners have learnt with much regret that a proposition is about to be made to your Honourable House to increase the present duties on colonial timber. That your petitioners are of opinion that any such increase of duty would be highly injurious to the interests of the British shipowner. That, therefore, your petitioners entreat your Honourable House not to sanction any proposition for the purpose above stated."

It was also ordered that a copy of the petition be sent to the Society's Representative in London. On Wednesday next, there will be a special meeting of the Society, to take into consideration the subject of the Corn Laws.—May 8.

The Committee of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce resolved, on Thursday, May 6, to convene a general meeting of the Chamber, as soon as the details of the ministerial measure respecting corn shall have been made to Parliament: and the committee meet again on Monday to fix the day.

The treasurer of the Gateshead Dispensary, James Pollock, Esq., has received from Mr. John Greene, one of the executors of the late Miss Bonner, of Callerton, a legacy of £200, bequeathed to the institution by that lady, free of duty.

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Mrs. Cleghorn was elected on Tuesday to the office of matron to the Gateshead union workhouse, (Mr. Joseph Robson in the chair). Mr. Armstrong's motion to that effect, (which was seconded by Mr. Kenmir,) was met by an amendment, moved by Mr. Mordue, that the appointment be deferred until the next meeting of the Board of Guardians. This amendment was seconded by Mr. Henry Sanderson, and there was then a division. Messrs. Armstrong, Kenmir, Potts, James Hymers, Laws, Burnip, Gallon, and Tone, voted for the original motion: Messrs. Mordue, Sanderson, Robson (the Chairman), Haggie, and Hall, voted for the amendment. The former, therefore, was carried by a majority of three.—MAY 8.

The members of the Gateshead Ancient Florists' Society held their first Annual Meeting, for the Exhibition of Auriculas, Hyacinths, and Polyanthuses, on Monday last, at the house of Mr. James Scott, Half Moon inn, Bridge-street, when the prizes were awarded to the following gentlemen:—*Auriculas.*—Mr. John Wilson, 1st, 2nd, and 5th; Mr. F. Mitchinson, 3rd and Mr. John Lister, 4th. *Hyacinths*:—Mr. Isaac Scott, 1st and 4th; Mr. John Lister, 2nd and 3rd; Mr. David Young, 5th. *Polyanthuses*:—Mr. F. Mitchinson, 1st and 2nd: Mr. John Wilson, 3d. [The names of the flowers would have been given, but the printer could not be certain that he was right as to the orthography of some of the number.]—MAY 8.

GATESHEAD FELL PUBLIC ROOMS.

AT a COMMITTEE MEETING, held at the Gateshead Arms, on the 13th inst., a further Call of Five Shillings per Share was made on the Shareholders, to be paid on the 27th inst., at a General Meeting, to be held on that day at the same place.

Gateshead Fell, May 13, 1841.

A petition of the Scotswood Bridge Company against the Carlisle Railway Company's Bill, was presented on Tuesday, and referred to the committee; but we understand the matter has been compromised, compensation having been made to the Scotswood Company for damages sustained.

The Newcastle Improvement Act is opposed by the Lead Trade of the port, whose interests would be materially affected, if the schedule of "Quayside Tolls" were sanctioned in its present shape. The Gateshead Council also oppose it in Parliament. The Committee on the Bill, we understand, is postponed until the 17th inst. By the bye, we hear that the plan defining the limits on which the "Thorough Toll" is now payable, and which, by Act of Parliament, is required to be shown to persons applying, has not been very accessible to inquirers lately. This is not as it ought to be. The framers of Acts of Parliament should take care not to be breakers of them. Besides, this sort of evasion is very like a misdemeanour.

Messrs. Bowe & Graves propose to indulge the people of Newcastle with a few airs on that singular musical instrument, "The Rock Harmonicon," at the weekly meeting of the Popular Lecture and Musical Entertainment Society, this evening.—MAY 15.

An eminent agriculturist, whose name would give great additional weight to the annexed petition, requests us to publish it for the calm consideration of his brother farmers, in the hope that many of them will be induced to adopt this form of petitioning the Legislature:—

Your petitioners, being deeply concerned in the prosperity of agriculture, are anxious, at the present crisis, to declare their opinions regarding the existing protection to the British farmer, and to call in question the supposed advantages derived therefrom.

Your petitioners must refer to the year 1815 as the period when the most ample protection to the landed interest was fully given, under the form of absolute prohibition of foreign wheat when the price was under 80s. per quarter, and of other grain at a price in proportion thereto; and the farmer was then assured that prices would in future range near this standard; notwithstanding which, the average of the 13 years subsequent, under this protection, barely reached 66s., whilst in the 10 previous years the average reached about 90s.; and equal disappointment hath ensued from the enactment of the graduated duties in 1828, under which it will be found that wheat has averaged 9s. or 10s. a quarter less than the prices consequent on the Act of 1790, which imposed the low duty of 2s. 6d. at 50s., and only 6d. above 54s. per quarter.

Your petitioners are therefore convinced from experience, that all attempts permanently to enhance the market price of grain by prohibitory enactments are futile, and have been delusive to the corn-grower, as the numerous petitions and complaints of the farmers must have proved; and those who have farmed at rents held out to their expectations by Acts of Parliament, have either suffered grievous loss of capital, or have ceased to be occupiers of the soil; whilst the stock-master has enjoyed remunerative prices from the sale of wools, upon which article the protection has all but been repealed, after a contrary policy was fully tried and signally failed.

Your petitioners have been led to believe that the only means sanctioned by good policy to ensure a remuneration price for agricultural produce, is by a good and effective demand, consequent on a prosperous commercial and well-employed manufacturing population, and will eventually be found more efficient than by limiting the supply of foreign grain under the name of protection, thus creating an artificial scarcity, with all the privations and discontent consequent thereon.

Your petitioners, therefore, most earnestly pray that a moderate fixed duty upon grain may be imposed, in order to benefit the revenue, and all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, instead of the present graduated scales—as they find that the worst enemies to the farmers are those persons who hold out prospects of prices by means which reason demonstrates to be contrary to the laws of Providence, and therefore impossible to be realized.

To this petition, our correspondent appends the average prices of wheat for fifty years, arranged under different corn-law eras:—

ACT OF 1790.

Duty under 50s., 24s. 3d.; under 54s., 2s. 6d.; above 54s., 6d.

1791	47	2	1798	50	3
1792	42	11	1799	67	6
1793	48	11	1800	113	7
1794	51	8	1801	118	3
1795	74	2	1802	67	5
1796	77	1	1803	56	6
1797	53	1	1804	60	1

Average of this Era, 66s. 4d.

ACT OF 1804.

Duty under 63s., 24s. 3d.; under 66s., 2s. 6d.; above 66s., 6d.

1805	87	10	1811	94	6
1806	79	0	1812	125	5
1807	73	3	1813	108	9
1808	79	0	1814	74	0
1809	95	7	1815	64	4
1810	106	2			

Average of this Era, 89s. 9½d.

ACT OF 1815.

Prohibited under 80s. per Quarter.

1816	75	10	1823	53	5
1817	94	9	1824	64	0
1818	84	1	1825	68	7
1819	73	0	1826	58	9
1820	67	11	1827	56	9
1821	56	2	1828	60	5
1822	44	7			

Average of this Era, 66s. 0½d.

ACT OF 1828.

Fluctuating Duty:—At 66s., 20s. 8d.; at 70s., 10s. 8d.; at 73s., 1s.

1829	66	3	1834	46	2
1830	64	3	1835	39	4
1831	66	4	1836	48	6
1832	58	8	1837	55	10
1833	52	11	1838	64	7

Average of this Era, 56s. 3d.

Sir Charles Grey's motion for a return of the receipts and expenditure of the Newcastle Corporation for the eight years ending 1840, was to come on on Thursday evening.

Mr. Hutt has this week had transmitted to him, for presentation to the House of Commons, two petitions from the borough of Gateshead, against church-rates and ecclesiastical courts. One of these was from the Independent church and congregation assembling in Melbourne-street: the other was the petition adopted at the late public meeting, and bore 682 signatures. Mr. Hutt, in acknowledging the receipt of the two petitions, stated his intention of presenting them on the evening that Mr. Easthope brought forward his motion on the subject.

The failure of Messrs. Campion's Bank, in the town of Whitby, which became public on Monday, has produced great consternation and distress in the district. The shipyards, smiths' shops, block and mast yards, and the kelp-works, are all closed, thereby throwing above one hundred hands out of employment.—MAY 15.

The petition of William Hymers, Esq., Mayor, on behalf of the inhabitants of Gateshead, against the Newcastle Improvement Bill, was presented to the House of Commons on Tuesday last, and referred to the committee, which consists of the Northumberland list, and Messrs. W. Wyndham, H. Grattan, W. B. Brodie, and Col. T. Wood, and Sir J. Pollen. The committee meet on the 17th inst. A petition was also presented on Monday, from the churchwardens and others of Newcastle, praying that a clause might be inserted in the Bill rendering it obligatory on the Council to provide for cleansing the streets and footpaths.—MAY 15.

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The Newcastle Chamber of Commerce is specially summoned, in general meeting, for Monday next, at two o'clock, to consider the Ministerial propositions respecting Corn, Timber, and Sugar Duties. The committee resolved on this step on Monday last. The committee-meeting was attended by Mr. Bright, of Rochdale, who favoured the members with a variety of observations in reference to the Corn Laws, and stated that although the Anti-Corn-Law League asked for a total repeal, and nothing less, yet the members of that League, as individuals, would, he had no doubt, much prefer the fixed duties proposed by Ministers, to the present law. He explained the constitution of the league—eulogized the perseverance, zeal, and indefatigability of its members—and showed that eventual success in destroying the Bread Monopoly, with such assistance as he had no doubt the people would render their leaders in the struggle, was certain. The thanks of the Chamber were voted to Mr. Bright. Mr. B., we understand, is son-in-law to our much-respected neighbour, Mr. Jonathan Priestman, of Newcastle.—MAY 15.

THE CORN LAWS.

MEETING OF THE NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, was held on Wednesday, May 12, at noon, in the Trinity Hall, Newcastle, "to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament in favour of an alteration of the Corn Laws." The meeting was composed of both Liberals and Conservatives.

Among the gentlemen present were:—Charles Smith, Esq., President of the Society; Messrs. James Dale, Christian Allhusen, Charles Rayne, Anthony Nichol, John Ormston, John Rayne, jun., John Hunter, William Hoggett, Rowland Hodge, Thomas Sowerby, John Anderson, James Potts, Charles Smith, jun., John Ingo, James Dent Weatherley, W. H. Brockett (Honorary Secretary of the Society), John Jobling, F. A. Pattison, Stephen Lowrey, William Pearson (Master of the Trinity House), R. W. Hodgson, J. T. Carr, John Fram, E. H. Campbell, William Armstrong, Anthony Parker, J. H. Henderson, and Robert Marshall, of Newcastle; and Messrs. William Richmond, George Guilford, Harrop Pringle, John Dale, Richard Fenwick, and Joseph Straker, of North Shields.

Mr. CHARLES SMITH was called upon to preside, and said, that he felt some little delicacy in taking the chair in the Trinity Hall, when the Master himself was present; but that gentleman had not only kindly granted the use of that place for the purposes of the meeting, but had also expressed his desire that the President of the Society should take the chair. (Applause.)

Mr. JAMES POTTS, the Assistant Secretary, read the requisition, which was signed as follows:—"John Ormston, Christian Allhusen, John Jobling, Anthony Nichol, James Dale." Mr. Potts also read the President's reply, convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN proceeded to open the business of the meeting—(which, by the way, went forward in rather an irregular, desultory manner, rendering it difficult to give a clear and connected report:—we will state, as far as we can, the substance of the discussion). The Society (observed the Chairman,) was formed to watch over and protect the interests of shipowners; and some of its members had thought it desirable that a meeting should be held, to consider how far the proposed alteration in the Corn Laws affected the interests of British shipping. All that he had to say was, that any document emanating from that Society should have especial regard to the interests of the shipowner; for it was simply as a body of shipowners that they were now assembled to consider the question of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear).

Mr. JOHN RAYNE inquired if there had been any communication from the General Shipowners' Society in London. He understood that a letter had been received from Mr. Oviatt, the Secretary. The General Shipowners' Society, it seemed, had joined in a league with other bodies, to oppose the measures of Her Majesty's Government, and many members had seceded from the Society in consequence. He was not surprised at this—it was extremely irregular and unjustifiable in the Shipowners' Society to make common cause with a political party; and for his part, if the Newcastle and Gateshead Society sanctioned such a proceeding, he would withdraw.

Mr. W. RICHMOND observed (as we understood him), that every Shipowners' Society would be left to adopt such course as it might think most just and proper: one Society would not think of encroaching on the independence of another.

Mr. W. H. BROCKETT, Hon. Sec., said, he would read the letters which had been received since their last meeting. But before he did so, they would perhaps allow him to say a few words in reference to what had appeared in a local paper of Saturday last, in reference to the manner in which this meeting had been originated. For his own part, he would have preferred to pass the paragraph by unnoticed, but his friends had requested him to take a different course. The newspaper to which he alluded—the *Newcastle Journal*—with all that jocularity of style in which the editor so well knew how to indulge, had been pleased to inform the public that he (Mr. Brockett) was the originator of the meeting; and the shipowners were kindly warned not to "fall into the trap which he had so artfully laid for them." Now this was altogether false—a pure invention on the part of the journalist. He had taken no part, either directly or indirectly, in originating the meeting: the tale of the "trap" was a fiction from beginning to end. Mr. B. having made these remarks, proceeded to read the following letters:—

FROM MR. HODGSON HINDE, M.P.

London, May 7th, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a petition from the Shipowners' Association of Newcastle and Gateshead, against the proposed alteration in the timber duties, in the prayer of which I entirely concur.

I attended a meeting to-day of the Shipowners' Society of London, where it was the general opinion that it was better to withhold the petition till the subject of the timber duties was about to come on for discussion, as it was desirable not to mix up the two questions in debate on the sugar duties. Believe me yours faithfully,

W. H. Brockett, Esq. JOHN HODGSON HINDE.

FROM MR. ORD, M.P.

Berkeley-square, May 7, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, enclosing a copy of the petition of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, with a request that I would support its prayer.

It is not very probable that the subject to which it refers, namely, an alteration of the timber-duties, will be brought in a separate form before the present Parliament—at least in this session. Whenever it is, the shipowners may depend on my giving the subject my best attention.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

W. H. Brockett, Esq. W. ORD.

FROM MR. GILLESPY.

London, May 7, 1841.

SIR,—I have the honour of receiving your letter, dated the 5th inst., and of apprising you that not only the North America Colonial Association, but also the West Indian proprietors and merchants' committee, have made common cause with the shipowners, and are acting in one united body, in opposition to the plans of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Other support is prospectively expected; and, on the whole, never, in my opinion or experience, did the necessity of that salutary protection for which shipowners contend, as due to British interests in opposition to foreign, seem more likely to be argued on broad principles.

A strong deputation has gone up to meet the Members who are known to be favourable to the principle of protection, before the assembling of the House to-night, and it is hoped that the amendment of Lord Sandon on the sugar-duties will be carried by a majority.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

W. H. Brockett, Esq. THOMAS GILLESPY, Jun.

FROM MR. OVIATT.

London, 72, Cornhill, May 4, 1841.

SIR,—With reference to the letter I had the honour to address to you yesterday, I am instructed to acquaint you that the Committee of the General Shipowners' Society have united with the Committee of the British North America Colonial Association, with a view to give effect to their opposition to the proposed alteration in the Timber Duties; and that the united Committee addressed the several Members of Parliament, representing the outports and maritime counties, informing them of their having invited shipowners to co-operate with them to meet the deputation of the joint-committee on Friday next, preparatory to the measure being again brought before the House. I am therefore desired to request that you will have the goodness to put yourselves in communication with the representatives of your port and district, previously to such meeting, urging upon them to co-operate with the committee, by offering their strenuous opposition to the measure.

I am further desired to express the hope of the joint-committee that you lose no time in preparing and forwarding petitions to Parliament in opposition to the proposed alteration of the timber-duties.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. H. Brockett, Esq. WM. OVIATT, Sec.

Mr. JOHN RAYNE inquired if the petition against the proposed alteration in the timber-duties, recently sent to the House of Commons from the Newcastle and Gateshead Society, was adopted at a general meeting of the members, or merely at a meeting of the committee.

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From the conversation to which this question led, the petition, it appeared, emanated from a committee-meeting, open to the members of the Society generally.

Mr. CHARLES RAYNE inquired if Mr. Gillespy, the representative of this Society in London, was empowered to join with Anti-Slavery and other Societies, in one common crusade against the Queen's Government. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RICHMOND asked, if the Newcastle Society was to run counter to other Societies founded for the protection of the interests of shipowners.

Mr. STEPHEN LOWREY observed, that the petition on the timber duties was adopted at a very small meeting, and was extremely vague and unsatisfactory. (Cries of "Order, order," "We are not assembled to discuss the timber duties," "Mr. Rayne's question has not been answered.")

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to Mr. Rayne, said, that Mr. Gillespy had no power beyond what the rules of the Society gave him.

Mr. C. RAYNE thought that he had exceeded his powers.

The CHAIRMAN: He has done nothing at all—he has merely communicated to us certain facts.

Mr. RAYNE: He has done more than that—he identifies himself with the league of which he speaks.

Mr. JOHN JOBLING: But he has done nothing which compromises his constituents. We appointed him to watch over our interests in London, and he has sent us certain facts, and expresses his own opinions. We are not responsible for his opinions, but only for such acts as he may perform in the character of our delegate.

Mr. RICHMOND: And must he act as we direct? (Cries of "Yes, yes.") Talk of tyranny! why, this is tyranny with a vengeance! (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN requested that gentlemen would proceed to the special business of the day; and

Mr. NICHOL, after some discussion as to the best mode of introducing the subject, moved the adoption of a petition, which, after one or two verbal alterations had been made (on the suggestion of Mr. C. RAYNE), stood as follows:—

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society.

Humbly sheweth,—That your petitioners are of opinion that the present Corn Laws are defective, whether viewed as a measure of agricultural protection or of national prosperity and finance; that they injuriously affect the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country, by limiting and restricting its trade, and are particularly injurious to your petitioners, by depriving them of the employment for their vessels which they otherwise would obtain. That your petitioners therefore respectfully entreat your Honourable House to alter the present Corn Laws, and place the trade in grain on a safe foundation, so as to avoid those fluctuations which have heretofore existed in it, to the injury of every class of the community.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Mr. CHARLES SMITH, jun., seconded Mr. Nichol's motion.

MR. CHRISTIAN ALLHUSEN (one of the principal corn. merchants of the port) said he had been induced to sign the requisition for the calling of this meeting, under the impression that the passing of a measure which admitted of the corn-trade being carried on regularly, would confer the greatest benefit upon the shipowners of this district which ever had resulted from any legislative enactment affecting their interests. Corn being a bulky article, the carrying of it to and fro would give great and additional employment to our ships. Why should this article which he looked upon as the greatest article in commerce, be subjected to restrictions which almost prevented our dealing in it, excepting under very extraordinary circumstances? Under the present law, orders were sent to foreign ports for the purchase of corn, when the merchant saw the duty was on the decline. He, however, was not permitted to bring his purchases to market in the cheapest manner he could, as he ran the risk of paying an enormous duty if his goods did not arrive within a very limited period. What was the result? His correspondent abroad got instructions to charter the first vessel he could get hold of; and as there were seldom English vessels unoccupied in foreign ports, the foreign shipowner got the advantage arising from any sudden demand. How different would matters be, if the merchant could choose the best season for importing? Was it not self-evident, that under such circumstances vessels would in general be sent from this country? He felt convinced that every man of business would prefer to bargain for a vessel here, to leaving the fixing of the freight to people at a distance. If this law were changed, they would find that the country, and more particularly this district, would become a great depôt. (Hear, hear.) The port and the country would derive great advantages from supplying other nations. Occasional employment of this sort had been given to our vessels under the present system. It was so after 1832, and would be so again, but only when the speculator had missed his aim. During the differences between Holland & Belgium, considerable quantities of foreign oats were shipped from Newcastle. The demand arose late in the autumn. He (Mr. Allhusen) saw Mr. Campbell in this room, who, he remembered, supplied him with several cargoes on that occasion. Wheat was shipped to France, Spain, Portugal, Madeira, Rio de Janeiro, and several other countries—even Riga and Canada had been supplied with foreign grain from this place within the last six years. This was not all:—in 1834, he himself shipped a cargo of wheat for Odessa, which he had only just imported from Petersburg. (Hear, hear.) This cargo was sold to a profit! His friend on his right (Mr. Nichol), who had to send a ship for a cargo of tallow, got 4s. per quarter freight for carrying his wheat, instead of taking in ballast. Now he would ask the meeting, if such a place as Odessa could require supplies, was it not likely that other countries might do so also? (Hear, hear.) He was of opinion that any of the southern countries of Europe, which had not been favoured with fine weather during harvest time, would be regularly our customers, if they were allowed to deal in corn upon fair and proper principles. He confined himself exclusively to facts, when he stated that corn could be carried to many of those countries at a less cost by way of Newcastle, than it could be done direct from the Baltic, during six months of the year. If they were only permitted to import corn during the seasons when it could be done at a reasonable cost, the export trade would follow of itself, as soon as the extraordinary restrictions were removed which at present existed. Since the present Corn Law came into operation, 11,318,549 quarters of wheat alone had been entered for consumption; and as every quarter of it had been used, he thought gentlemen would be of opinion they would often want importations; and the question was, upon what principle these importations were to take place. Many of the landowners were unquestionably of opinion that 8s. per quarter was too low a duty; but when he mentioned that the average duty paid on the quantity imported since the present laws came into operation, was 5s. 8d. per quarter, he thought the meeting would say that the landowners ought to be satisfied with the protection now offered to them. (Hear, hear.) If they were not, they might find out their mistake. He felt obliged for the attention with which his observations had been honoured, and trusted the meeting would adopt the petition now under consideration. (Applause.)

Mr. LOWREY entirely concurred in Mr. Allhusen's views. The present Corn Laws were injurious to the shipping interes and to the country generally.

Mr. JOHN RAYNE would have been better satisfied (if the petition had been more explicit. It was so vague, that it would equally support the 8s. duty proposed by Lord John Russell, or a 12s. or 15s. duty proposed by Sir Robert Peel. (Hear, hear.) It stated nothing more than that some alteration was necessary—of which most shipowners had long been convinced. He wished it had been a little more precise—either naming some fixed duty, or praying for a total repeal. (Hear, hear.) He would not enter into any discussion of the general operation of the Corn Laws on the interests of the country; for it was understood that they were limited to the consideration of those laws merely as they affected the shipping interest, and, consequently, they were restrained within narrow bounds. (A cry from Mr. Richmond of "Aye, narrow indeed!" and laughter.) So far as the Corn Laws affected the shipowner, the question had been very ably discussed already; and he had only to say, that if their total repeal had been proposed, the motion should have had his vote. (Mr. Richmond: "Capital!"—Laughter.) The agricultural interest was more "protected" than any other in the State. And the reason was obvious: the laws were made by landowning legislators, who took good care to tax themselves as lightly as possible. (Mr. Richmond: "Well done!"—Laughter.) He would not move any amendment, though he did once think of proposing the addition of a clause in favour of total repeal.

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Mr. RICHMOND said, that it has not his intention to have opened his lips in the present meeting, for he fully expected that some more competent person would have come forward to oppose the objects of the requisitionists. He had been called upon to attend many meetings in this noble hall, to struggle against the injuries which had been inflicted upon the shipowner in the last five and twenty years. But he never expected to be called upon to attend a meeting there, which had for its object the destruction of the present system of Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) Like his friend Mr. Brockett—(he hoped he might be allowed to call him his friend)—he was no trapsetter (laughter)—but a plain, straightforward man: he did not approve of laying baits to catch unwary folks, and agreed with Mr. Rayne that the petition ought to have been more precise. (Hear, hear.) For himself, he looked on any shipowner who voted for the total abrogation of the Corn Laws, or for some humbugging duty (laughter), as more stupid than the poor rat that swallowed the poison that was prepared for his destruction, or followed the smell of cheese till he found himself in a trap. (Laughter.) Would it benefit the shipping interest to overthrow the monarchy, and root the aristocracy out of the land? What would become of the shipping or any other interest, when such a state of things was brought to pass? By the reciprocity laws, (framed, he was sorry to say, by men who called themselves *liberal* Tories,) the shipping interest had already been brought to a state of great depression and embarrassment; but it would be ruined utterly and entirely, if the present Corn Laws were destroyed. British seamen would be reduced to the miserable level of foreigners—to the condition of untaxed Prussians and Russians, with their wages of 20s. If the views of the kind friends around him were carried out to the extent they desired, there would be nothing left but a beggarly, worthless trade, as though there had not been beggary enough in the last five-and-twenty years. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He would move, as an amendment, that the petition be rejected, and that the Corn Laws, in the opinion of this meeting, should remain unaltered. He could not conceive a better law: it admitted corn at a trifling duty in seasons of pressure, and kept it out at other times. A fixed duty of 8s. would prove a delusion: it could never be maintained when corn was dear. But he knew his amendment would be lost: the present meeting would carry the petition, and would carry it even if it went the full length of Mr. Rayne's opinions. (Cries of "No, no.") The fact was, that shipping formed only a small part of the business-concerns of a majority of the gentlemen composing this meeting; and they were influenced, on the present occasion, by considerations altogether foreign to their interests as shipowners. He would conclude by moving that the Corn Laws, in the opinion of this meeting, should remain unaltered.

The CHAIRMAN: Does any person second the amendment? (Silence.)

Mr. RICHMOND: Will nobody second my motion? (Great laughter.)

Capt. WEATHERLEY would not second Mr. Richmond's amendment, but he would move another: he would move that the petition of the meeting be in favour of total repeal. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOHN RAYNE seconded the amendment.

Mr. BROCKETT was glad that he had had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Richmond on the present occasion. That gentleman was a shipowner—an intelligent shipowner; and he was ready to concede to him that he was actuated by sincerity in his opposition to Corn-Law Reform. But while he admired his sincerity and boldness, he also pitied his blindness (laughter); for it was melancholy to witness a man advocating a system totally at variance with his own interests. ("Hear, hear," from Mr. Richmond.) He would have been glad if he had been called upon to admire, not only the sincerity, but also the wisdom of his friend Mr. Richmond. It was painful to see a man opposing, not his own interests alone, but also the interests of his country. Mr. Richmond spoke of the meeting as being composed of small shipowners, and he seemed to think that a small owner did not see his own interest so clearly as a large one—that the owner of a quarter of a ship was less quicksighted than the owner of a whole vessel. (Laughter.) But why should it be so with shipowners, and not with landowners? The small and the large landowners combined together in the prosecution of what they supposed to be their interests, and Mr. Richmond said they were all right; but when his friend, who was a large shipowner, stood alone amongst men whom he described as little shipowners, then he declared himself alone to be in the right, and all the others to be in the wrong. (Laughter.) Mr. Richmond saw nothing objectionable in the exclusion of British shipping from the corn trade. If, therefore, that gentleman's views were carried out, then shipping was a sort of luxury which the nation could do very well without. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) The mercantile marine of Great Britain, according to Mr. Richmond's creed, might be dispensed with altogether: a few vessels, for the pleasure of travellers, might be retained, but all the rest might be parted with without any inconvenience. (Hear, hear.) If it were desirable that the nation should be dependent on foreigners for the conveyance of corn to our shores—if this were a beneficial system to be perpetuated, would it not be still better to employ them to bring coffee, and tea, and hemp, and cotton, and bones, and every other article that we imported? (Hear, hear.) And, speaking of bones, he might repeat what Mr. Allhusen had stated on another occasion, that they were admissible on payment of a small duty, if they were only bare bones; but if there was any meat upon them, then their admission was prohibited! (Hear, hear.) [Mr. Brockett proceeded to make some remarks, which we did not catch, on the subject of the wages of sailors.—Mr. Richmond explained that he had been misunderstood: the Prussian sailor, he said, was better paid than the English, taking into account the relative value of money. Mr. Brockett resumed]:—It was a fallacy frequently put forward by gentlemen of Mr. Richmond's political school, that wages fell with the price of food. In reply to this doctrine it was not necessary to show that wages were dependent on the demand for labour, and not on the price of food. There was no need to argue the point—no necessity for controversy—when facts themselves were at hand—when our every-day experience flatly contradicted the sophistry of corn-law advocates. Wages were found to be high when corn was low, and wages low when corn was high. What, then, became of the assertion made by the friends of the Corn Laws, that cheap provisions brought down wages? (Hear, hear.) Mr. Richmond told them they were all labouring under delusion. In this respect his friend was not at all singular:—most men thought those who differed from them were deluded; and as the great majority of that meeting were of opinion that Mr. Richmond was most lamentably deluded, they could afford to let him think the same of them. (Laughter.) Mr. Richmond called himself a Tory—not one of the "liberal Tories" whom he so bitterly condemned, but a genuine Tory. (Laughter.) For his part, however, he not only thought Mr. Richmond to be liberal, but one of the most liberal men that he knew of, (laughter); for he was ready to sacrifice his interests as a shipowner to the success of his political associates, and must henceforth be looked upon as an ultra-liberal politician—a man prepared to offer up the very means by which he lived on the altar of his party. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. LOWREY observed, that Mr. Richmond accused the reciprocity laws of having reduced the shipowners to starvation. He (Mr. L.), however, had become a shipowner under those laws, and he appealed to the meeting whether he had any appearance of starvation. (Great laughter.) The shipping interest, in his opinion, would be greatly benefited, if the reciprocity laws were carried completely out. The foreigner would then have no chance with the British shipowner.

Mr. RICHMOND would like to know if Mr. Lowrey had made his money by shipping, or if he had not invested in shipping what he had made as a merchant He was afraid that many persons were investing money in ships which they had accumulated by other means, and they would find out their error when it was too late.

Mr. C. RAYNE expressed his surprise that Mr. Richmond should not only have invested his own money in ships, but also advised some of his friends to take the same ruinous course. (Hear, hear.) But he had heard other persons talk like Mr. Richmond; yet, when they lost one ship, they would replace it with two. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Rayne proceeded to address the meeting at some length; and in the course of his speech, he spoke of shipowners who supplied their ships with meat abroad. Mr. RICHMOND remarked that this was illegal, and could not be done honestly. "Perhaps so," said Mr. RAYNE, "but it *is* done, though of course not by Mr. Richmond." (Laughter.)

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Mr. J. JOBLING made a few observations in favour of an alteration of the Corn Laws. The time for a change, he must admit, had come. He was not, however, in favour of Lord John Russell's fixed duty of 8s., much less Mr. John Rayne's sweeping proposal; and he trusted that the amendment would be rejected by a decisive majority.

Mr. C. RAYNE suggested a change in the petition, which, he thought, would meet the views both of the mover of the original motion, and of the amendment; but neither Mr. NICHOL nor his seconder would consent to the alteration.

The CHAIRMAN then put Capt. Weatherley's amendment. 8 voted for it—12 against it—many of the gentlemen present voting on neither side.

The amendment being lost, the original motion was put, and there was a general show of hands in its favour. Against it, Mr. Richmond was the only one to hold up his hand; and he exclaimed, amidst much merriment, "What! am I left alone?"

Mr. NICHOL moved, that the petition be signed by the President on behalf of the Society, and transmitted to Messrs. Ord and Hinde for presentation to the House of Commons; also, that a copy be sent to Mr. Gillespy, that he might lay it before the General Shipowners' Society, and support its prayer.

Mr. RICHMOND: Great *** *******! do you mean to say that you have appointed a delegate without liberty to think for himself? He differs from you—(and I'm glad he does)—and would my friend Nichol cram the petition down his throat? (Laughter.)

Mr. NICHOL: I have no wish to coerce Mr. Gillespy. All that I wish him to do is to lay it before the Society, and support it, if he thinks well. But he will please himself on that point.

Mr. RICHMOND: That is a very different affair.

Mr. Nichol's motion having been carried *nem. con.*, Mr. C. RAYNE was about to bring Mr. Gillespy's conduct under consideration, but was told that he could not do so at the present meeting: he must give notice of motion.

Mr. RICHMOND moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried by acclamation; and the proceedings (which were characterized throughout by great good-humour) came to a close.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

AT a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce, held this day, in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, pursuant to advertisement, (JOSEPH LAMB, Esq., PRESIDENT,) it was unanimously resolved:—

Moved by William Armstrong, Esq., V.P.,
Seconded by Thomas Wilson, Esq. V.P.,

1.—That a Restrictive System of International Policy is highly detrimental to the commercial and manufacturing interests of this country.

Moved by William Henry Brockett, Esq., J.P.,
Seconded by Henry Mitcalfe, Esq., J.P.

2.—That the heaviest grievance of which the people have to complain, is the Law affecting the Importation of Corn and Provisions, which, by keeping the expense of subsistence higher in this than in other countries, operates to the discouragement of manufacturing skill and enterprise, and consequently to a diminution of profitable employment for the working classes of the community.

Moved by Christian Allhusen, Esq.,
Seconded by R. Robinson, Esq.,

3.—That a considerable deficiency having occurred in the public revenue, it seems desirable to provide for at least a part of that deficiency—not by any new or additional taxation—but by a reduction of the Differential Duties on Timber and Sugar—a measure which would demonstrably lead to an extension of foreign commerce, an increase of social comfort, and an augmentation of the revenue of the country.

Moved by Nathaniel Hindhaugh, Esq.,
Seconded by Armorer Donkin, Esq.,
And carried by a large majority,

4.—That Petitions be prepared to both Houses of Parliament, embodying the above resolutions, and praying that the financial propositions recommended by her Majesty's Ministers may be adopted.

JOSEPH LAMB, President.

The President having quitted the chair, the thanks of the meeting, on the motion of A. Donkin, Esq., were unanimously voted to him for his able and very courteous conduct.

By Order,
THOMAS GRIEVESON,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 17th May, 1841. Secretary.

TO D. TURNER, ESQ., OF BLAGDON.

SIR,—Your question in the *Courant* of to-day, as to the extent of "protection" afforded to Agriculture by the Legislature, is not difficult of solution. There have been eight cargoes of wheat imported into the port of Newcastle *within the past week*, containing about 7,227 quarters; and the present duty on wheat being 23s. 8d. per quarter, we have here £8,551 19s. of "protection" by Act of Parliament, at this moment, in addition to the "protection" afforded by the expenses of transport, &c., from the place of growth to the vessel on yon side, and by the freight to this country. The total of "protection" is therefore:—

Duty	£8,551	19	0
Shipping charges, &c., say 8s. per quarter, (which is a low average)	2,890	16	0
Freight, 3s. 6d. per quarter, (also a low average)	1,264	14	6
	£12,707	9	6

Or £1 15s. 2d. per quarter! Surely this is "protection" enough, Mr. Turner.—Yours, &c.,

Newcastle, May 21, 1841. A QUAYSIDER.

THE BREAD MONOPOLY.

THE admirable protest against the Corn Law of 1815, entered on the journals of the House of Lords by Lord Grenville and nine other Peers, is very deserving of attention at this moment. We seriously call upon all classes of our readers to peruse it, and to weigh its reasoning well. The worst friends of British agriculture are those who advocate principles in opposition to Lord Grenville's—who seek to bolster up monopolies by Act of Parliament—who look for profits and prosperity in what is called Parliamentary "protection," rather than in the exercise of that happy combination of industry and perseverance with ingenuity and skill, on which the welfare of every other great interest of the kingdom is founded.

The following is the protest:—

Dissentient.—I. Because we are adverse in principle to all new restraints on commerce. We think it certain that public prosperity is best promoted by leaving uncontrolled the free current of national industry; and we wish rather, by well-considered steps, to bring back our commercial legislation to the straight and simple line of wisdom, than to increase the deviation by subjecting additional and extensive branches of the public interests to fresh systems of artificial and injurious restrictions.

II. Because we think that the great practical rule of leaving all commerce unfettered, applies *more peculiarly*, or on still stronger grounds of justice as well as policy, to the corn trade than to any other. Irresistible, indeed, must be that necessity which could, in our judgment, authorize the Legislature to tamper with the sustenance of the people, and to impede the free purchase of that article on which depends the existence of so large a portion of the community.

III. Because we think that the expectations of ultimate benefits from this measure are founded on a delusive theory. We cannot persuade ourselves that this law will ever contribute to produce plenty, cheapness, or steadiness of price. So long as it operates at all, its effects must be the opposite of these. *Monopoly is the parent of scarcity, of dearness, and of uncertainty.* To cut off any of the sources of supply, can only tend to lessen its abundance; to close against ourselves the cheapest market for any commodity, must enhance the price at which we purchase it; and to confine the consumer of corn to the produce of his own country, is to refuse to ourselves the benefit of that provision which Providence itself has made for equalizing to man the variations of climate and of seasons.

IV. But whatever may be the future consequences of this

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law at some distant and uncertain period, we see with pain that these hopes must be purchased at the expense of a great and present evil. To compel the consumer to purchase corn dearer at home than it might be imported from abroad, is the immediate practical effect of this law. In this way alone can it operate. Its present protection, its promised extension of agriculture, must result (if at all) from the profits which it creates by keeping up the price of corn to an artificial level. These future benefits are the consequences expected, but, as we confidently believe, erroneously expected, from giving a bounty to the grower of corn, by a tax levied on its consumer.

V. Because we think the adoption of any permanent law for such a purpose required the fullest and most laborious investigation. Nor would it have been sufficient for our satisfaction, could we have been convinced of the general policy of a hazardous experiment. A still further inquiry would have been necessary to persuade us that the present moment is fit for its adoption. In such an inquiry we must have had the means of satisfying ourselves what its immediate operation will be, as connected with the various and pressing circumstances of public difficulty and distress with which the country is surrounded—with the state of our circulation and currency, of our agriculture and manufactures, of our internal and external commerce—and, above all, with the condition and reward of the industrious and labouring classes of our community.

On all these particulars, as they respect this question, we think that Parliament is almost wholly uninformed—on all we see reason for the utmost anxiety and alarm from the operation of this law.

LASTLY. Because, if we could approve of the principle and purpose of this law, we think that no sufficient foundation has been laid for its details. The evidence before us, unsatisfactory and imperfect as it is, seems to us rather to disprove than to support the propriety of the high price adopted as the standard of importation, and the fallacious mode by which that price is to be ascertained. And on all these grounds we are anxious to record our dissent from a measure so precipitate in its course, and, as we fear, so injurious in its consequences.

We could quote largely from the evidence of eminent agriculturists, in favour of an immediate abandonment of the present fallacious and deceptive Corn Laws—we could show that these have been the parents, not only of deprivations and injuries incalculable to the consumer, but of utter poverty and distress to the producer himself; but the "protest" so prophetically, as well as faithfully, points out the truth, that to attempt to corroborate it would be to deal by it both impertinently and unjustly.

We refer with much satisfaction to the resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle, passed on Monday last, in approbation of the Ministerial propositions as to the Corn Laws and the Tariff—and also the petition of the Newcastle Town Council on Wednesday. Every where, the knell of the Bread Monopoly is sounded. It seems given up by every party and by every class. We are told, certainly, by Tory *Journals*, of great dislike on the part of the people to a reform of the Corn Laws—but we neither hear nor see it. If lovers of the monopoly there be, they must meet in secrecy and in silence. Nowhere is a meeting of them to be discovered. Petitions are occasionally presented to Parliament, it is true, against any alteration in the Corn Laws, but whence they emanate no man can tell. Like a certain petition lately presented from Gateshead in favour of Church-Extension—from Gateshead, where Church-Extension has saddled the churchwardens with several hundred pounds of debt, and where the churches and chapels are never filled—like this petition, the *pro*-Corn-Law documents are said to be very "respectably signed;" but their birth and parentage, it cannot be denied, are most lamentably obscure.—MAY 22.

The girls of St. Edmund's Chapel School, Gateshead, had their examination on Wednesday, when they went through their various branches of education with great credit, and gave general satisfaction to those who were present—particularly the first class, in the outlines of Astronomy and Geography. The Rev. J. Davies and Rev. T. Speck, stated that they were highly gratified, and spoke in terms of the warmest praise of the general conduct of the children.—There were present the Rev. J. Davies, rector, Rev. T. Speck, curate, Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Speck, and several others.—MAY 22.

Mr. William Sheppard (who is he?) has addressed "the worthy and independent freemen and other electors of the city of Durham," generously tendering to them an offer of his services in Parliament. His announcement is a curiosity in its way, and we are tempted to insert it in our columns, trusting to the honour of the ambitious aspirant, for payment of the advertisement.

"Ten years (says he) of silent encroachment upon, or open violation of, all that Englishmen hold dear,"—[what is that, Mr. Sheppard? *dear* BREAD?]—"have at length awakened throughout this country a spirit of indignation, the first effect of which will be a retributive measure, enabling all honest men"—[namely, the *Sheppard* family]—"to come constitutionally to the rescue of the Altar, the Crown, and the People—to rescue the Poor from tyranny, the Crown from insult, the Altar from desecration!" [Formerly, the Tories took only the Bible and Crown under their patronage; but the world improves as it grows older, and now, as a clap-trap for the Chartists, the *People* are permitted to nestle under the Tory wing.]—"For this purpose I have the honour to address the free and independent Electors of Durham. Unconnected with party,"—[of course,]—"unfettered by local or other ties,"—[*Sheppards* should avoid all allusion to "ties" and "fetters,"]—"I solicit your suffrages, gentlemen, upon the ground of principles alone. Another candidate of Conservative principles"—[Capt. Fitzroy]—"will also claim the honour of your votes. From him I hope to receive the courtesy I shall offer. But my successful opposition to any candidate who may appear before you to advocate the policy which, during the last few years, has tyrannized over the poor, *injured commerce*,"—[the Corn Laws!]—"endangered property,"—[Swing!]—"degraded the nation, insulted the Crown,"—[Bradshaw, Roby, Molesworth, M'Neile!]—"profaned the altar,"—[simony!]—"my success against a candidate, the apologist or advocate of such a line of policy, depends upon yourselves."

This must be the production of some wag, who loves a joke at the expence of the *Sheppard* school of politicians.

The Directors of the Newcastle and North Shields Railway seem determined to bring Tynemouth and Newcastle as near to each other as Newcastle and Gateshead—(measuring the distance by the time of transit). There are to be "mail-trains," which will run five times a day in each direction; and by this new arrangement of the Directors, persons will be whisked from Newcastle to North Shields in 12 minutes, and to Tynemouth in 25!

The *Sir William Wallace*, a steam-vessel of 100-horse power, built by Mr. Stephen Wood, of the South Shore, Gateshead, and fitted up with two engines by Messrs. Hawks, Stanley, & Co., made an experimental marine trip on Tuesday last. The engines were manufactured under the superintendence of Mr. John Golightly, Messrs. Hawks & Co.'s engineer; and the paddle-wheels, and steam and exhausting "ways," being on a new construction, some details may be of interest and importance to mechanical men. The improvement on the common steam slides consists in the steam being admitted into the cylinder by two plain or simple brass plates, connected together by a rod: one plate to admit steam at the top of the cylinder—the other to admit steam at the bottom—and so contrived that by means of two excentrics the steam port or way can be worked fully open, or shut at any point to the extent of two-thirds, and the steam worked expansively. This change of steam port can be instantaneously effected, without stopping the engine. The steam ports have no other duty to perform, the exhaustion and condensation being effected by two double mitre valves, which always work fully open, whether the steam ports are or are not so. Thus a full condensation is always in operation. This arrangement also renders the working of the hand-gear comparatively very easy, there being nothing to contend with but the pressure of the steam on the area of the steam ports, and the vacuum on the double mitre valves.—The paddle-wheels, to which we next turn our attention, are 15 feet in diameter, with 24 floats on each wheel—12 on the inside, and 12 on the outside; for the wheel may be described as double, having three rims—the middle rim having 24, and the inner and outer rim each 12 arms, to receive the

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ends of the inner and outer floats. First an inner, and then an outer float, falls into the water, and is immersed 4 inches below the surface. Each float is 5 feet long by 2 broad, thus giving a surface of 480 feet on the two wheels.—The improvements which we have described greatly diminish the vibration in the boat and engines—lessen the swell and back-water from the paddle-wheels—and make the vessel go with more steadiness and regularity.—The vessel was built for the Caledonian Steam Towing Company, whose offices are at No. 11, Milk-yard, Shadwell, London. In addition to the *Sir William Wallace*, this company is in possession of *Tam O'Shanter*, *Souter Johnnie*, *Robert Burns*, and *Caledonia*, all of which received their engines at the Gateshead iron-works, and are now fully employed in towing vessels in and out of the Thames.—Early on Monday morning last, the *Sir William Wallace* was taken down to Shields; and at 9 o'clock, (George Hawks, Esq., Mr. Golightly, Mr. Lisle, a shareholder in the Caledonian Company, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Wood, and other gentlemen being then on board,) she crossed the bar, and proceeded northward. The day was somewhat boisterous, but the wind was rather in her favour, though the tide was against her. Mr. Golightly tried her under various powers, and at half past eleven o'clock she reached the mouth of the Coquet, where she lay a short time; and then, passing round Coquet island, she started southward at about 12 o'clock, under full power. The stoker, who has a versifying vein, was overheard to hum, as he threw in his supplies of coal:—

On, on! my gallant steamer, on!
Your furnace-fires burn brightly:
Hawks' wings you've got: "on, *Stanley*, on!"
O'er the green wave *Go-lightly*.

Every one on board remarked her freedom from the ordinary vibratory motion of steam vessels, and her quick sailing; and at a few minutes past 2, after a run from the Coquet of 2 hours and 10 minutes, she entered Shields harbour, having been absent on her trip little more than 5 hours, in which she had steamed little short of 50 miles. On a previous day, we understand, she was taken out to sea, and fell in with the *Vesta*; whereupon she challenged that quick-sailing vessel to a trial of speed, and outstripped her. On Thursday, she sailed for London, to take her station among the other vessels of the Caledonian Steam Towing Company.—MAY 22.

Sir C. Grey's motion, "That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, that she will be graciously pleased to issue a commission to inquire into the conservancy of the port of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and the claim of the Corporation of Newcastle to hold the same, and to impose or receive duties upon goods imported, coastwise, or otherwise, into the said port," was postponed, on Tuesday last, to June 18. [Here, again, the *export* duties should be included.—ED. G. O.]

Mr. Hodgson Hinde's motion of inquiry as to the mail-arrangements between London and Edinburgh, is deferred to Tuesday next. We trust that the Hon. Member may be enabled to effect a change in the present inconvenient arrangements. An additional London and Edinburgh mail is required on this side the island. Why are the Town Councils, the Chamber of Commerce, and other public bodies, unmindful of this question?

The Newcastle Improvement Act was petitioned against on Tuesday, in the House of Commons, by the millers of Newcastle. The petition was referred to the Committee. On Thursday se'nnight, a petition against the same measure was presented from the merchants, shipowners, &c., of North and South Shields.—MAY 22.

The Committee of the Newcastle Improvement Bill has had added to it, the Hon. A. Cole, Sir C. Lemon, and Viscount Eastnor.

The Corporation of Newcastle, we learn with much pleasure, have conceded the just demands of Gateshead for exemption from Quayside tolls, and ordered the Improvement Act to be altered accordingly. The differences with the Lead Trade have also been arranged. We trust we shall in future hear no more such nonsense as that a Corporation has been of "no use" to Gateshead.

Mr. Hutt, M.P., has, we understand, during the present week, used much exertion before the Committee of the House of Commons, on the Newcastle Town Improvement Bill, to secure for the millers of Newcastle and Gateshead the abolition of the thorough-toll on bread, flour, and meal.

Messrs. Ord and Hinde, the Members for Newcastle, have addressed the following letters to the Honorary Secretary of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society:—

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and the petition of the Shipowners' Society, which I shall have much pleasure in presenting to the House of Commons, most cordially concurring as I do, and have done ever since the year 1815, in the impolicy and injustice of the present Corn Laws, which I think may be easily proved not to have been less injurious to the farmers than to all the other great interests of the country. I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Berkeley-square, May 14, 1841. W. ORD.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, enclosing a copy of a petition from the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, praying for an alteration of the Corn Laws. I have never been averse to such alteration, and am prepared to support any proposition which shall afford a fair protection to the British farmer, and hold out a prospect of greater steadiness of price, although I fear that the greater portion of the carrying trade would fall to the share of the foreign shipowner. I am, yours faithfully,

London, May 14th, 1841. JOHN HODGSON HINDE.

Hence it appears that not only the Liberal but also the Tory Member for Newcastle condemns the present Corn Laws. The *Journal*, which raises an outcry in their favour, must be perplexed how to maintain its views, and, at the same time, to support Mr. Hinde, in the event of a general election. But wait awhile—and notwithstanding its declarations of Saturday last, we shall have our contemporary on the side of repeal.

Sir Charles Grey's motion for a return of "all tolls, duties, or monies levied or received by the Corporation of Newcastle, for goods imported into the port of Newcastle, and of the application of all such monies," during the eight years ending 1840, was agreed to on the 13th.—[We hope the Hon. Member will move also for a return of the tolls, duties, or monies, levied on goods *exported*—an amount of taxation which we have already shown to be monstrous.—ED. G. O.]

THE ROCK HARMONICON.—On Saturday last, the Committee of the Newcastle Popular Lecture and Musical Society afforded the public an opportunity of hearing this truly singular yet pleasing instrument, with the performances of the Messrs. Walker & Graves upon it. The Rock Harmonicon is composed of slabs of stone (52 in number), from Mount Skiddaw, in Cumberland, (varying in length from seven or eight inches to three feet, and in thickness from one to two inches,) and placed, in two layers, in their rough unpolished state, upon a wooden frame—one layer being about a foot apart from the other, and the stones resting upon ropes of twisted straw, in order to prevent the stoppage of vibration. These stones have long been known to possess the power of emitting musical sounds when struck; but we are not aware that, excepting in *one* other instance, the rocks have ever before been made thus "to utter sweet concord of sounds." The performers are severally provided with a pair of small wooden mallets, with which they strike the stones—striking upwards, at the upper layer, whenever they have to play an "accidental" flat or sharp. The music performed upon the Rock Harmonicon consisted of Strauss's and other waltzes, and some of the favourite national and local airs, and popular ballad-music of the day, arranged for the three performers by one of their number. Although the room was very much crowded, and the sound in consequence greatly injured, the general effect of the instrument was such as to give the most lively satisfaction to the audience, who manifested their pleasure by encoring every piece. The Messrs. Bowe & Graves have now removed the Rock Harmonicon to the Academy of Arts, in Blackett-street, where it is exhibited and performed upon daily; and we sincerely trust they will meet with that success which they so well deserve.—MAY 22.

THE COAL TRADE, TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.—Grey, in his survey of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1640, gives a quaint description of the Coal Trade; which, as it may not be uninteresting in our day, we have extracted:—

"Many thousand people are imployed in this trade of coales. Many live by working of them in the pits; many live by conveying them in waggons and waines to the river Tyne; many men are imployed in conveying the coales in keels from the stathes above the ships. One coale-merchant imployeth five hundred or a thousand in his works of coale; yet, for all his labour, care, and cost, can scarce live of his trade; nay, many of them hath consumed and spent great estates, and dyed beggers. I can remember one, of many, that raysed his estate by coal trade: many I remember that hath wasted great estates. * * Our coale-miners, they labour and are at a great charge to maintain men to work their collieries: they wast their own bodies with care and their collieries

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with working: *the kernell being eaten out of the nut, there remaineth nothing but the shell:** their collieries is wasted, and their monies is consumed: this is the uncertainty of mines—a great charge—the profit uncertain. * * Some south gentlemen hath, upon great hope of benefit, come into this countrey to hazard their monies in coale-pits. Master Beamont, a gentleman of great ingenuity and rare parts, adventured into our mines with his thirty thousand pounds; who brought with him many rare engines, not known then in these parts—as the art to boore with iron rodds, to try the deepnesse and thicknesse of the coale—rare engines to draw water out of the pits—waggons with one horse, to carry down coales from the pits to the stathes, to the river, &c. Within few years, he consumed all his money, and rode home upon his light horse. * * Some Londoners of late hath disbursed their monies for the reversion of a lease of a colliery, about thirty years to come of the lease: *when they come to crack their nuts, they find nothing but the shells:** nuts will not keep thirty years—there's a swarm of wormes under ground, that will eat up all before their time: they may find some meteors—*ignis fatuus*—instead of a mine."

Grey admits, however, that "this great trade hath made this port to flourish in all trades"—a fact which two centuries have corroborated, and one which ought never to be lost sight of, by both producer and consumer. Camden called Newcastle, "Ocellus, the eye of the north, the heart that warms the south part of the kingdom with fire,"—a character which we would fain see maintained, but which the modern "regulators" of the Coal Trade have done their best to destroy.

*Had there been "simony *carbonical*"—parson-pilferers of the coal—in Grey's time?

STATISTICS OF MORTALITY.—A calculator has established, in a pretty evident manner, that one person dies on the globe per second, 60 per minute, 3,000 per hour, 86,400 per day, and 31,536,000 per year of 365 days. The following are the bases of this calculation:—He supposes that the earth is peopled by a thousand millions of inhabitants, whose average life, as established by tables of mortality, may be 33 years. Each year devouring 31,536,000 individuals, the thousand millions will be absorbed in 33 years. And the number of 31,536,000 being that of the seconds composing the year, one individual must die per second—except a few slight fractions, as those will see who may take the trouble to verify the calculation. There is only one objection to be made—which is, that the earth is supposed to have only 800 (not 1,000) millions of inhabitants.—*Echo du Monde Savant.* ["In the midst of life we are in death!" Yet, not content with the ravages of mortality in the natural course of things, man devises improved modes of putting his brother man to death. In illustration of his ingenuity in this line, we quote another paragraph from our Parisian contemporary.]

THE half-yearly meeting of the Boroughholders and Freemen of the borough of Gateshead, was held in the Anchorage School, on Wednesday, May 19, (MR. WILLIAM KENMIR, the Senior Steward, in the chair). There were present about twenty-four persons, including the Mayor, Aldermen Pollock and Brockett, Messrs. Colman, Glaholm, J. and R. Lister, J. Lister, jun., J. Honeyman, —— Hind, N. Andrews, James Hymers, F. Walker, C. J. Pearson, George Watson, and Mr. Swinburne, the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and included a Report of a Deputation that had waited on Mr. Ellison, the Lord of the Manor, with a view to obtain his approbation of the proceedings for the appropriation of the Windmill Hills, and his signature to the trust-deed; and by which it appeared that Mr. E., although not disposed to oppose the proceedings, declined being a party to the deed.

The accounts of the Stewards were then read, and showed a balance of £276 3s. 9½d. in their hands.

The CHAIRMAN having asked if any person had any business to bring forward,

Mr. JAMES HYMERS said he thought the business of the day was the election of the Stewards.

Some inquiries having been made as to what had been done in respect of the properties ordered at the last meeting to be sold,

The MAYOR said that the property had been put up for sale in four lots, and had been bought in; but that two of the lots, viz., the Pipewellgate and Cannon street property, had been since sold by private contract; and it had been agreed to give Mr. George Watson £200 in consideration of the expense he had incurred in improving the property in Cannon-street, and as a compensation for giving up the lease; and he expected the other lots would soon be sold, and the proceeds paid to Mr. Smith, as part of his mortgage claim. Mr. Rawling had made a bidding for the property he occupied in Bensham, but the trustees had not accepted it. [Mr. Pollock said, Mr. Rawling was willing to take it at a valuation.] As to the Windmill Hills, (continued the Mayor,) buildings had been begun—four building sites having been contracted for, and the houses commenced—the price, 5s. per square yard, in consideration of the large quantity of ground required for each site—the purchasers agreeing to pay a perpetual ground-rent equal to 5 per cent. on the value of the sites.

Mr. BROCKETT asked if the conveyances to the purchasers had been executed.

The MAYOR said "No."

Mr. BROCKETT was surprised that persons should be building on ground that had not been conveyed to them.

The MAYOR said their confidence in the Boroughholders was so great, that they did not hesitate to do so. As to the mode of conveyance, there were plenty of precedents for it: they had sold property before in the same way, and no objection had been taken to it.

Mr. J. HYMERS thought that the property formerly sold was for the purpose of defraying the expense of the Act of Parliament for the division.

Mr. SWINBURNE said "No."

Mr. BROCKETT said that precedents might be found for many a bad and illegal action, but they did not make the law. What they were doing was contrary to law, and no precedent could make their conduct legal. He begged to know how many borough-rights Mr. Ellison possessed?

Mr. SWINBURNE said—"One."

Mr. BROCKETT asked if the same sort of complimentary deputation had waited upon other persons possessing one borough-right or more, to obtain their signatures.

Mr. GLAHOLM said—Yes, they had all been asked to sign.

Mr. BROCKETT: Yes, I have no doubt of that; but were they shown the documents and the deed, &c., as Mr. Ellison had been? and if not, what is the reason of the great preference shown to Mr. E.?

The MAYOR said the reason was that Mr. Ellison being Lord of the Manor, some persons had entertained a notion that he had some interest greater than other boroughholders in the property, which was not the case; and also it had been believed that he (Mr. E.) had been opposed to the division in 1814.

Mr. BROCKETT said there was another and more powerful reason, and probably the only reason; and it was this—that Mr. Ellison was a rich man, and a powerful one, and the party who wished to divide the property were afraid to encounter his hostility—durst not, indeed, move a step until they knew he would keep quiet. They thought they could beat down or tire out the little or poorer boroughholder, but the rich and powerful they dared not engage with. He could not see any reason why the other boroughholders should not be dealt with in the same way as Mr. Ellison, and have every information on the subject; and therefore he moved that the case submitted to Mr. Walters, with his opinion thereon as to the appropriation of the property, should be printed, and a copy sent to each boroughholder and freeman.

The MAYOR opposed the motion. It would be expensive, and every boroughholder was sufficiently aware of the nature of the business, and had had an opportunity of hearing the opinion read.

Mr. HONEYMAN requested the Chairman to put the matter to the vote, and have it decided.

Mr. BROCKETT said that was a very easy way, certainly, of deciding it. They might order him (Mr. B.) out of the door, or throw him out of the window, by vote, if they chose. It was a convenient way of opposing a question—for those who could say nothing against it: he wanted reasons, not votes.

Mr. ROBERT LISTER said he did not understand why Mr. Brockett and Mr. Hymers were always opposing and preventing things being done.

Mr. J. HYMERS said he thought he and Mr. B. were not the only dissentients—and he wished to know how many had not signed the deed.

Mr. SWINBURNE said he did not know.

Mr. R. LISTER thought Mr. Brockett should give a reason why he did not agree with them.

Mr. BROCKETT replied that Mr. Lister had no right to ask for any reason whatever. He (Mr. B.) opposed the proceedings—it was his pleasure to oppose them—he had a right to do so, and he would persist in doing so, and would continue to do so until justice was done to all parties.

Mr. GLAHOLM said every body knew the contents of the legal "opinion."

Mr. BROCKETT asked if Mr. Glaholm knew the contents.

Mr. GLAHOLM said "Yes."

Mr. BROCKETT said, "Well, we'll try whether you do or not. Now, I say that Mr. Walters distinctly declares that the deed must be signed by every boroughholder and freeman—do you admit that?"

Mr. GLAHOLM said, "No—he thought a majority would do."

Mr. BROCKETT then asked Mr. Swinburne to read the opinion.

Mr. SWINBURNE complied, and it stated that the deed was to be signed by every one.

Mr. BROCKETT said, "Now, Sir, my memory, you see, is better than yours—and may not other persons be equally ill-informed with yourself? Why not, then, give all the boroughholders a copy, and let them have the whole facts?"

Mr. JOHN LISTER thought there was no occasion to print the Act of Parliament, or to talk so long about the matter, keeping people from their dinners in this way.

The CHAIRMAN asked if the motion was seconded.

Mr. JAMES HYMERS said he would second it.

It was then put to the vote, when the mover and seconder voted in its favour, and six against it.

Mr. J. HYMERS thought the names should be taken down; on which another show of hands was taken, when the mover and seconder again voted *for*, and all the meeting (except Ald. Pollock and Mr. C. J. Pearson) voted *against* the motion.

Mr. BROCKETT then said, he had another motion to make. It was, that any boroughholder applying for a copy of the case and opinion, should be furnished with one on paying for it.

Mr. J. HYMERS seconded the motion.

The MAYOR opposed it, and moved, as an amendment, that the sum of £2 per borough-right be paid to each boroughholder and freeman within ten days, and that a circular be sent saying that the "case" and "opinion" would be at the meeting for their inspection.

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Mr. Glaholm seconded the amendment.

Mr. Brockett thought it would be much better to divide the amendment into two: the division of the money was a distinct business, and should be disposed of separately. He could not see any objection that could be made against giving those boroughholders a copy of the "opinion" who applied for it: it was their property—they had paid for it, and could demand it: indeed, for his part, he was determined to have a copy, and he should like to know the Mayor's reason for opposing the motion.

The Mayor said he would say candidly that his reason was that he believed Mr. B.'s motive was to give publicity to the "opinion," and thereby create a feeling against the proceedings.

Mr. Brockett said the Mayor might attribute what motives he liked, but what would the public think of this refusal to give information? Would not the public attribute all this reluctance to the badness of their cause? Would not the public suspect that there was something illegal, underhand, and indefensible in their proceedings, when they durst not allow copies to be taken?

Mr. Pollock thought the motion was reasonable—copies ought to be given to those who applied, and were ready to pay the expense.

Mr. Glaholm also assented to the motion: and it was then put and carried *nem. con.*

The Mayor then moved the division of the money.

Mr. J. Hymers asked if Mr. Ellison had always taken his part of the money divided.

Mr. Swinburne referred to the book, and found that the money had been regularly received for Mr. Ellison by Mr. Joseph Robson.

Mr. Brockett said he would not vote either way on this question; but he protested against any division of the money, and he did so in order that it might not be said afterwards that he had been present at a meeting, and had not expressed dissent.

Mr. James Hymers said he was of precisely the same opinion.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Mayor moved that other persons than boroughholders should be allowed to purchase building-sites, as several applications had been made. The sale at present was confined to boroughholders, but it was thought it would be better to throw it open.

Mr. Brockett asked how it happened they were obliged to have recourse to this expedient?

Mr. Pollock thought the buildings would be a great improvement to Gateshead, and would make the property more valuable.

The Mayor said, although he was in favour of the present measures, he would still like to see the matter properly arranged: he would even consent to an Act of Parliament—to any thing by which the public good might be promoted—and what had been done might be included in the Act of Parliament.

The motion was then carried.

The Mayor next moved that fifty £5 shares be taken by the boroughholders in the proposed Town Hall and Public Rooms, which would be of great service to the public.

Mr. Pollock recommended that 100 shares be taken, on condition that the site for the building be purchased on the Hills. Mr. P. afterwards altered his motion to the effect that instead of subscribing to the building, a suitable site on the lower or eastern part of the Hills should be given for the purpose.

Mr. Honeyman proposed, as an amendment, that a site be offered to the subscribers, but on the same terms as to other people.

Mr. Hind seconded the amendment.

After some discussion, the original motion was carried, only the mover and seconder of the amendment voting against it.

Messrs. Kenmir and Davie were then re-appointed Stewards, and Mr. Swinburne Secretary. A Committee of Assistants to the Stewards were also appointed; and thanks being voted to the Chairman, the meeting was dissolved.

TO

THE BOROUGHHOLDERS AND FREEMEN OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

THE strange, unjustifiable, impolitic, and illegal proceeding having been resorted to, of allotting Building Sites on the Windmill Hills—a portion of the old Borough Lands of Gateshead which was specially exempted from the operation of the Inclosure Act of 1814, and expressly declared by the said Act to belong to the "Boroughholders and legal Freemen *for the time being* of the borough of Gateshead," (a body which is now, under the Municipal Reform Act, represented by the "Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses,")—I feel it to be a duty, both as an inhabitant and a Boroughholder, to offer every opposition in my power to the perpetration of so great a wrong.

As an inhabitant, I claim the whole and exclusive controul and revenue of the property, for the benefit of the public of Gateshead; and as a Boroughholder, (if as a Boroughholder any right attaches to me,) I will never sanction the alienation of the property, except on conditions which shall secure to the borough at large some solid and permanent advantage.

In order to expose the attempt, and, at the same time, to show its utter impracticability, as well as the risk, pecuniary and otherwise, to which those concerned in it are exposing themselves, I now publish a "case" submitted by the parties who originated these proceedings, to Mr. W. Clayton Walters (a legal authority of acknowledged eminence), and his "opinion" thereon.

According to Mr. Walters, *a satisfactory title cannot be made to persons disposed to build* on the Windmill Hills, unless under the authority of *a deed executed by all the Boroughholders and Freemen of Gateshead.*

That extreme importance is attached to this "opinion" by the would-be dividers of the property themselves, is evidenced by the reluctance which has been shown to its publicity, or, indeed, to the publicity of any of the proceedings of the Borough Meetings. Not long ago, a Reporter was excluded from the Anchorage; and a motion made by me, last week, to the effect that a copy of the "case" and "opinion" should be sent to every Boroughholder and Freemen, was opposed in a manner by no means calculated to allay suspicion. Having succeeded, however, at last, in obtaining permission to any Boroughholder to have copies of the document on demand, I have availed myself of the privilege, and now lay them before you.

W. H. BROCKETT.

Gateshead, May 24, 1841.

CASE SUBMITTED TO MR. WALTERS.

By the Act (54 George III., 1814,) "for inclosing the borough-lands in the parish of Gateshead, in the county of Durham," (a print of which is sent herewith,) after stating in the preamble that there were within the parish of Gateshead, in the county of Durham, several common or town fields, and other commonable lands, containing 200 acres, or thereabouts; and that the owners of certain burgages or ancient tenements within the town and borough of Gateshead, who are usually denominated Boroughholders and the legal Freemen of the same town and borough, were proprietors of the said common or town-fields and other commonable lands and grounds; and that there were other persons who were entitled to rights of common therein, and who, with the said Boroughholders and Freemen, were entitled to stint or depasture the same; and that several wind corn mills, messuages, tenements, or dwelling-houses and buildings, had from time to time been erected upon certain parts of the said common or town fields and other commonable lands and grounds, and were then held under and by virtue of certain leases or demises for terms of years, granted by the Stewards for the time being of the said Boroughholders and Freemen of the said Borough, at and under certain rents by the said leases reserved, and payable to or for the use of the said Boroughholders and Freemen; and that there were other mills, messuages, tenements, or dwelling-houses and buildings, erected and built upon the said common or town fields, and other commonable lands and grounds, let by the Stewards, on behalf of the said Boroughholders and Freemen as tenancies from year to year, or otherwise, at rack rent; and that the said lands and grounds were capable of considerable improvements, and that it would be greatly to the advantage of the persons interested therein if the same were divided and inclosed, and specific shares thereof allotted to them in lieu of and in proportion to their several and respective estates, rights, and interests therein:—It was enacted, that all the said common or town fields, and other commonable lands and grounds, of which the said Boroughholders and Freemen of the said borough of Gateshead were proprietors as aforesaid, and lying and being in the said parish of Gateshead, "(other than and except a certain part and parcel thereof, commonly called and known by the name of the Windmill Hills, containing ten acres or thereabouts,)" should, as soon as might be after the passing of the said Act, be surveyed, qualified, valued, set out and allotted by the Commissioner therein named, in manner therein mentioned.

And it was further enacted, "that from and after the passing of the said Act, all right of common in and upon the said parcel of ground, called and known by the name of the Windmill Hills, therein before excepted and reserved from the operation of the said Act as to the division and allotment thereof, should altogether cease and and be for ever extinguished; and the same should thenceforth be solely vested in, and held and enjoyed by, the Boroughholders and legal Freemen for the time being of the said borough of Gateshead, subject to such other rights and privileges, except all rights of common thereon, which were intended to be extinguished and

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determined by the said act, as had theretofore been granted to or acquired, and then enjoyed, by any other person or persons in and upon the same."—[N.B.—The "rights and privileges" referred to in this clause were such leases as had theretofore been granted by the Stewards, and such roads, &c., as the public had acquired a right to, but which roads, &c., the Boroughholders and Freemen might stop up, &c., by the means referred to in the Act.]

And it was further enacted, that it should be lawful for the Commissioner for putting the said Act in execution, by his award, or by any other instrument or instruments, in writing, under his hand and seal, to set out, allot, and award from and out of the said lands and grounds thereby to be divided and allotted, such ways, passages, and other conveniences, to or for the use of the said messuages, mills, tenements, or dwelling-houses and buildings, erected and built, and then and there standing and being in and upon the said lands and grounds thereby intended to be divided and allotted, as he should think convenient or necessary, to be held and enjoyed therewith, for the use, benefit, and advantage of the said Boroughholders and Freemen, or the person or persons to whom any such mills, messuages, tenemants, dwelling-houses and buildings, might be demised, let, enfranchised, sold, or disposed of.

The Commissioner, in pursuance of the said Act, divided the said common or town fields, and other commonable lands and grounds, and by his award allotted the same to the respective persons entitled to allotments thereof; and the Boroughholders and Freemen afterwards "enfranchised, sold, and disposed of" several of the mills, messuages, &c., of which they had previously granted leases; and from the passing of the Act they have held and enjoyed the parcel of land called the Windmill Hills, by letting the same, and disposing of the rents according to the orders and directions of the Boroughholders and Freemen, at their meetings, held half-yearly for examining and auditing the Stewards' accounts; but the land of the Windmill Hills is capable of being applied or appropriated to much greater advantage to the Boroughholders and Freemen than at present, by laying it out in building sites, with garden plots and other convenient accommodations; of which sites, according to a plan made by Mr. Thomas Oliver, of Newcastle, architect, there will be 180—which somewhat exceeds the number of the Boroughholders and Freemen; and it has been proposed and approved of, by a meeting of the Boroughholders and Freemen, as the best means of improving their property, and increasing their income from it, that leases of the said building sites be granted to, or in trust for, such of the Boroughholders and Freemen as may be disposed to accept the same; and that as to such of the sites as shall not be taken by the Boroughholders and Freemen, leases thereof be granted to such other persons as shall be willing to take the same; each of such leases to be for a certain term (say 21 years), with power, and on condition, to build a dwelling-house of a specified description thereon, under an annual ground rent—(that in the lease to a Boroughholder or Freeman, one-third, or some other proportion, less than in one granted to a person not a Boroughholder or Freeman); and all the leases to be renewable from time to time, at the same ground rents, and on payment of a fine certain, viz., a year's or some certain portion of a year's rent; unless a division of all the property of the Boroughholders and Freemen should at any time take place, in which case the property comprised in each lease shall be considered as of the value of 20 years' purchase of the ground-rent reserved for the same; and in case any of such property shall then be held by a Boroughholder or Freeman, he shall take the same at that value, in part of his share and interest of the general property; and if the holder of any part of the leased property be not a Boroughholder or Freeman, he shall have the option of enfranchising it at the same rate; and if he shall refuse to enfranchise on those terms, the lease shall not be renewed again, and the property held by him shall, for the purposes of the division, be valued subject to the then unexpired term of the existing lease.

The principle upon which it was proposed to grant building leases is set forth more at large in the scheme submitted to the meeting of the Boroughholders and Freemen, held on the 7th day of September last, by the Committee appointed at a former meeting for the purpose of devising the means best adapted for making the property of the Boroughholders and Freemen, as far as possible, available for their benefit. [A copy of the scheme sent.] And it being suggested in the said scheme, that in order to facilitate the granting of such leases as before mentioned, a deed should be forthwith prepared, to be executed by each Boroughholder and Freeman, for the purpose of vesting the property proposed to be leased in trustees, or otherwise, as might be advised by counsel; and that such deed contain all such powers and provisions as may be deemed necessary or proper for effecting, as far as can be, the granting such leases; and that such deed or form of lease be prepared under the advice of and settled by Mr. Walters:—Mr. Walters will therefore be pleased to consider the foregoing statement with reference to the Act of Parliament for the division of the town-fields, and the said scheme for granting the leases submitted by the Committee, and advise how far the proposed object is practicable and can be effected; and if he shall be of opinion that it can be effected, that he will be pleased to prepare the deeds necessary for that purpose.

It may be necessary to state, that the Boroughholders and Freemen have some other lands, formerly part of the town fields, and which, upon the division thereof, were awarded to them in respect of certain burgages or ancient tenements which they had previously purchased of individual Boroughholders, which are not to be the subject of the proposed deed.

It is also necessary to state, that the Boroughholders consist of both males and females, (some of which females are married,) and of infants; and that in some instances the ancient burgages, to which the right of the lands is appurtenant, are subject to the trusts of settlement, and in other instances subject to mortgages. There are about 140 Burgage Rights, and 4 Freemen.

However, it must be observed, that the granting of leases, and otherwise letting and managing the property of the Boroughholders and Freemen, have always been done through the medium of their Stewards (appointed annually from themselves), pursuant to the orders made at their meetings; and there is no doubt that all those who are competent will readily agree to the adoption of the proposed plan, which is evidently so much for the benefit of the whole; and it is submitted to Mr. Walters whether the object cannot be effected under an order made at a meeting specially convened for the purpose, or at which individual notices shall be given, stating the particular subject to be submitted to the consideration of the meeting. The ordinary meetings are held half-yearly, at May-day and Martinmas; and special meetings are convened by the Stewards, either as from themselves, or in pursuance of requisitions from others of the Boroughholders, and stating the special purpose for which the meeting is convened, which is specified in the individual notices.

OPINION OF MR. WALTERS.

I do not think a satisfactory title can be made to persons disposed to build on the property of the Boroughholders and Freemen of Gateshead, unless under the authority of a deed executed by all of them, vesting the property in trustees for the purposes intended.

In cases where infants are interested in Borough Rights, the defect may perhaps be cured by procuring a sufficient covenant that the infant shall release when of age, and of indemnity in the mean time.

If the parties determine not to grant sites in fee simple, I recommend that the term of years should be made at first of a sufficient duration to induce builders to engage in the undertaking, without the necessity of having to come for a renewal of the lease, which can only tend to cause trouble and expense. The length of the term must of course depend upon the scale and kind of building intended.

But, under the circumstances, I incline to advise grants in fee simple; for if the expence of procuring the concurrence of all the Boroughholders and Freemen must be incurred, it seems unwise to reserve a reversionary interest, which cannot be dealt with without a repetition of the same expense.

If the property can be divided into the same number of sites as there are parties interested, the sites may be limited to the respective parties, and they may dispose of them upon such terms as they respectively please—all persons building being however bound by a certain plan and specification.

Sites might be granted in fee simple, reserving a rent charge in fee.

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If the proposed deed were to embrace the lands allotted to the Boroughholders, and such lands were given to the parties not desirous of having sites, there would be a sufficient number of sites to give to each of the remaining parties interested at least one. WM. CLAYTON WALTERS.

Newcastle, November 9, 1838.

LETTER XIII.

TO THE COUNTY-RATE-PAYERS OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,—I cannot refrain from laying the following advertisement before you, taken from the *Morning Chronicle* of Friday, May 21st, 1841:—"To Architects, Surveyors, &c.—The Magistrates of the County of Devon are desirous of obtaining the service of two persons—one as Surveyor of the County Buildings, and the other as Surveyor of the County Bridges. The duties of the Surveyor of Buildings will be to superintend and inspect the repairs of the Gaol and Bridewell, Sheriff's Ward, and Shire Hall, at a salary of £20 per annum. The Surveyor of County Bridges must be resident within the county, and keep an office in Exeter. *He must act himself, and not by deputy.* He will have to prepare all plans, specifications, and estimates, for such county bridges as may require to be repaired or rebuilt, *and is not to be concerned in any contract or work undertaken at the county expense.* The salary to be £300 per annum. Further details of the duties required from both officers may be seen at the office of the Clerk of the Peace for the county, to whom all applications must be sent on or before the 23rd day of June next; and the appointment will take place at the Quarter Sessions, to be held at the Castle of Exeter on the 30th day of June next."

Mr. Welsh, the Bridge Surveyor of Northumberland, has a salary of £600 per annum: he employs deputies at the expense of the county: he executes his own plans at an *unlimited* expenditure: he charges for postage, tolls, and stamps: while his office in the county service does not entail upon him such onerous duties as the Bridge Surveyor of Devon, the roads and bridges in that county being more numerous than those in Northumberland. By a statistical work on the county of Devon, I find that in 1834 the bridges cost the county £2,851 2s. 5d.: in Northumberland, last year, they cost £1,020 9s. 8d.

Awaiting the printed Report of the Committee of Magistrates upon the Memorials of the Ratepayers, I will say no more at present upon Mr. Welsh's salary and duties.

When I next address you, I am confident that the pleasing duty will be mine of congratulating you upon the laudable economy of our Municipal Councillors. *They have made no call upon us this quarter for a county rate.*

Keep a watch upon the amount of fines levied and *paid* into the Treasurer's hands. I expect to see an exposé in one of the wards, relating to weights and measures. The accuser will, I hope, append his name to his public charge, and take his stand upon indisputable data.

A great crisis is at hand—a dissolution of Parliament is certain—County Reform may be forgotten in the midst of the struggle between Hypocrisy and Monopoly on the one hand, and the unfettered interchange of the productions of labour on the other. Those who have held up the pseudo friends of the slaves in Brazil to the gaze of the world—who have declared that the coloured population of Jamaica ought to have a beneficial interest in the cultivation of its soil, and a participation in its municipal privileges—cannot oppose the introduction of *responsible* local government into England. Lord Howick has shown himself capable of legislating for a great nation: he cannot neglect a province. His opinions upon the fiscal laws of the country must be taken as a guarantee of his readiness to grant to the counties a constitutional system of local government; and when the day of election comes, let the independent Electors of Northumberland rally around the man who has proved himself so able to make an impression upon the House of Commons, while advocating the principles of a liberal and enlightened policy. I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

Bywell, May 25th, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETING AT NEWCASTLE.

A MEETING of the inhabitants of Newcastle was held in the Guildhall, on Friday, May 28, at one o'clock, in consequence of a numerously-signed requisition to the Mayor of Newcastle. The upper part of the hall was early occupied, pretty numerously, by members of the working-classes and others; and by a little after one, the hall was crowded.

Mr. W. L. HARLE moved that Mr. JOHN RAYNE, in the absence of the Mayor—no reason for which was assigned—should be called to the chair; and the meeting having signified their assent,

Mr. J. RAYNE took the chair, stating that he was not at all aware, when he entered the room, that he should be required to fill this important office; but as the Mayor was not present, and the meeting had signified their wish that he should occupy his place, he would endeavour that each person present should have an impartial hearing. (Applause.) The Chairman then read the requisition; after which,

Mr. W. L. HARLE said he wished to offer a few remarks upon the requisition, and the conduct of the Mayor respecting the time of calling the meeting. He (Mr. H.) was one of those who signed the requisition, and had called upon the Mayor with it. The Mayor agreed to call the meeting; but when he (Mr. H.) mentioned the after-part of the day, so as to allow all classes the opportunity of being present, the Mayor positively refused to do so—and the meeting was consequently called for one in the afternoon. He (Mr. H.) hoped that after this explanation, the meeting would acquit him and his fellow-requisitionists of the blame for the hour at which the meeting had been called. (Hear, hear.)

Ald. LOSH rose to propose the first resolution; and previous to so doing, made some remarks upon the various objections urged by opposite parties against the Government measures for the modification of the Corn Laws—his reasons for not agreeing with those objections—and then his reasons for supporting the resolution he was about to propose. He (Mr. L.) was in favour of a change in the present Corn Laws, on account of the great and wide-spread distress everywhere prevailing—distress owing, not to merely temporary causes, but to long-existing ones—distress confined, not to one class, interest, or district, but affecting every class, and depressing every branch of trade. The Corn Laws, he (Mr. L.) thought, were the principal cause of this distress; and therefore he earnestly wished to see them so modified as that they should not have this pernicious influence. This question, he thought, was one quite independent of party politics, and he therefore conceived there was no necessity, on the present occasion, to express approbation or otherwise of the party by whom this measure had been brought forward. ("Hear, hear," cries of "Oh!" and laughter.) Mr. L. then alluded to the argument so frequently urged, that cheap bread would lower wages—an argument so false (he thought), that he was surprised any one should have been bold enough to press it upon the people of England. (Hear, and ironical laughter.) Wages were influenced, not by the price of bread, but by the amount of labour in the market:—and to prove his position, Mr. L. adverted to the increase of the price of bread within the last few years, and then asked if wages had risen in the same proportion? (Cries of "No.") Had they not rather decreased? (Hear.) He (Mr. L.) would not longer take up the time of the meeting, but would conclude with moving the first resolution,—which was to the following effect:—That the commercial prospects of the country being at the present moment deplorable in the extreme, it is incumbent on the Legislature to take immediate and decisive steps to revive, if possible, our trade and manufactures, and to render the ordinary comforts of life cheap and accessible to the working millions of the empire. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. ALLHUSEN, before seconding the motion, proceeded to explain to the meeting some of the injurious effects of the Corn Laws, with which he was practically acquainted. As the meeting generally would not exactly comprehend him, if he spoke of what wheat was per quarter, he would say wheat was 60s. per sack; and they would then clearly understand, that, with their low wages, the working classes could not purchase a sufficiency of bread. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Allhusen contrasted the vast increase of the population of this country—(shown by the last census, as compared with the previous one)—with the comparative non-increase of our home-produce in the same given period—(expressing his belief that while the one had nearly doubled, the other had remained nearly stationary)—and asked if it was not disgraceful to confine this enormous population to the small produce of its own corn-fields?

Mr. MASON (a Chartist) rose, amid cheers and some hisses, and cries of "The Whigs are hissing," &c. &c. He (Mr. M.)

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was sure that those who assailed him were not Chartists. (Cheers.) The Whigs, who often accused the Chartists of misbehaving themselves in this way, were, now that it suited their purpose, silent, instead of repudiating it, as they ought.

Mr. HARLE did repudiate such conduct, whoever were the parties. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MASON was glad there were gentlemen among the Whigs who respected fair-play. He then said that those who had brought forward this resolution had not supported it by relevant arguments—and went on to say, that he could prove, by better arguments, that the Whig ministry were not the parties to whom the carrying out of this measure should be entrusted. The Whigs had only just found out that the Corn Laws should be altered—the Chartists had long ago proclaimed that they must: therefore, the Chartists were fitter to govern the country than the Whigs. (Cheers from the Chartists.) Mr. Mason then reviewed the state of trade in foreign countries, contrasting it with our home-trade—said the Whigs had not brought forward their measure till it was too late—and after urging much the same reasons as those brought forward by Messrs. Williams and Binns (as reported in our account of the Sunderland meeting) why the Chartists should not co-operate with the Corn-law repealers, unless *they* co-operated with them in the obtaining of the People's Charter, concluded by moving an amendment—That whilst deprecating the effects of those odious statutes, the Corn Laws, upon the country generally, this meeting thought that no measures would have a beneficial result which did not tend to give the people their just representative rights. Mr. Mason having read his amendment, was about to sit down, when he said he had overlooked one point, and that was, the answer given by Lord Melbourne to the deputation who waited upon him some two years ago. respecting an alteration in the Corn Laws, viz., that he thought them mad, &c.; and now, he came forward as an advocate for the very measures he then so strongly condemned—(cheers, and hear, hear)—yet not, however, until the seven years of the Ministry's being in power had expired, and they found there was a chance of their being kicked out. On the sugar question they (the Ministry) had been defeated, and yet they talked of giving them *cheap bread!* Was it to be believed they had it in their power? Mr. Harle had, on a former occasion, talked of dashing the coronets from the foreheads of the peers; but he (Mr. Mason) was not for doing so until he was certain of the honesty of the middling classes.

Mr. COOK, of Gateshead, (a Chartist,) submitted the propriety of Mr. Mason's amendment being put as a separate resolution. He himself saw nothing to object to in Mr. Losh's resolution, and he was quite in favour of Mr. Mason's amendment, and would second it, if put as a separate resolution. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MASON, however, contended that his amendment must be put as such, because it embodied the first resolution, merely going a little further.

Mr. SINCLAIR seconded the amendment.

Mr. W. L. HARLE said, that as Mr. Mason had quoted from a former speech of his, he (Mr. H.) would base his remarks upon the speech which Mr. Mason had just delivered. Judging from that speech, he must confess he knew not whether Mr. Mason was really in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws or not. (Hear.) His (Mr. M.'s) notions on the subject were extremely crude—in fact, he had read the one side of the page, while he had not looked at the other. (Cheers and hisses, and cries of "No personalities," &c.) Mr. Harle begged the meeting to allow him to speak—Mr. Mason had been allowed to go on uninterruptedly. In what he had to say, he would endeavour to be as little offensive as possible. He (Mr. H.) would with all kindness strive to correct Mr. Mason's ignorance. (Great confusion, so that Mr. Harle could not be heard. Mr. Mason rose and begged the meeting to suffer Mr. Harle to go on as quietly as he himself had been allowed to speak. Mr. Harle proceeded):—Mr. Mason had referred to foreign countries—to the increase of their manufactures—and to the impossibility of our competing with them, in consequence of the high price of provisions in England; and for those very reasons he (Mr. H.) was raising his voice for the repeal of the Corn Laws. But passing by that, he was too much a citizen of the world to bound his view by even the broad lands of England; and he would say, that if it were found we could not compete with others for silks and gloves—supposing the Corn Laws repealed—then let us not keep from buying them of those who surpassed us in their manufacture—let us allow of unrestricted trade in every article—and even then we need not fear: we had still resources enough within our country, in her mineral and other productions, to enable us to drive a goodly trade with them in return. Those were his principles—free trade in everything, and everything would soon find its level. It had been said the manufacturers would alone be gainers by the repeal of the Corn Laws, and were now no sufferers by their operation. This was false: many of the manufacturers were nearly reduced to a state of beggary, and were merely keeping their factories open that their machinery might not rust and spoil from disuse. (Hear, hear.) Mr. H. then alluded to the state of the country in the neighbourhood of the Duke of Buckingham's estates, and asked what were wages there? Just 2d. per head! (Hear, hear.) Such being the wages under the present Corn Laws, and in the neigbourhood of one of their chief supporters, could they be worse, he asked, if the Corn Laws were repealed? (Cheers, and cries of "No! no!") In the course of some remarks upon the distress he had lately witnessed in Birmingham, Mr. Harle used the expression, "an humble shoemaker, such as Mr. Mason, who has just addressed you," which gave great offence to the Chartists, who, for a long time, would not listen to Mr. Harle's assurances that he had not meant to insult Mr. Mason by the use of that expression; but at length they allowed him to finish his speech, upon Mr. Mason's saying he had not considered it as an insult.

At the close of Mr. Harle's speech, Mr. MASON rose to reply to some parts of it; but being called to order, he gave way; and after one or two others had spoken, the CHAIRMAN, amid much confusion, put the amendment. A difference of opinion arising as to the decision, the meeting was divided, when there was a decided majority in favour of the original motion. The announcement was received with loud cheers and tremendous hissing.

Mr. T. M. GREENHOW moved, and Mr. POLLARD seconded, the next resolution, the purport of which was, that the Corn Laws were opposed to the spirit of Divine benevolence, ruinous to commerce, and the main source of the existing misery among the working-classes.

Mr. MASON and a stranger opposed the resolution; after which, the CHAIRMAN put it to the meeting, and declared the majority to be in its favour.

Mr. HARLE and Mr. COOK rose together; but the CHAIRMAN having decided in favour of Mr. Harle, that gentleman proceeded to read the petition, which was based upon the foregoing resolutions, and the adoption of which was seconded by Mr. C. RAYNE.

Mr. COOK then brought forward a resolution as an amendment or addition to the petition. It was to the effect, that while thinking the Corn Laws injurious, this meeting had no confidence in the present Ministry, and therefore prayed her Majesty to dismiss them, and choose more efficient men in their place.

This amendment having been, after much confusion and altercation, seconded by Mr. MASON—some remarks reflecting upon the course pursued by the Chartists present having been made by Mr. C. RAYNE, (which were replied to by Messrs. FINLOFF and RAYNE)—and Ald. LOSH having made a few further remarks,

The CHAIRMAN rose to put the petition first—thinking Mr. Cook's addendum should either follow or be altered; but the meeting having, by a show of hands, determined otherwise, he put Mr, Cook's addendum first, when there was a majority in its favour. The announcement was received by the Chartists with deafening cheers. [A gentleman called out that he saw five persons holding up both hands for Mr. Cook's motion—and we saw one person near us who did the same: still—wrong as such conduct is—there is no doubt the Chartists had this time gained the day; for the hall was by this time nearly empty, with the exception of the immediate neighbourhood of the platform, which was principally occupied by the Chartists, the majority of whom were there a considerable time before the meeting began.]

Thanks were voted to the Chairman for his thoroughly impartial conduct, upon the motion of Mr. Cook; and the meeting speedily separated, it being now five o'clock.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

For the credit of the public meeting held in the Guildhall

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this day (Friday, May 28), I trust you will let it be *emphatically* known, that after the division on the first resolution, a great part of the Reformers and Corn-Law Repealers left the hall, supposing the business of the meeting concluded; and further, that on the putting of Mr. Cook's amendment to the petition, a gentleman stated, that in the short space of time occupied by the Chairman in looking over the show of hands, he counted fifteen individuals with both hands up.

The writer of this occupied a prominent situation during the whole of the proceedings, and considers the following summary as tolerably accurate:—

FIRST DIVISION.

For the original motion	450
For Mr. Mason's amendment....	360
	810

DIVISION ON THE PETITION.

For the original petition	90
For Mr. Cook's amendment	130*
	220

* This includes "double-handed" votes.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM:—FURTHER ENDOWMENT.

At a convocation holden on Saturday, May 22, 1841, the scheme of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, for the further endowment of the University, was laid before Convocation, and received the approbation of the House. The scheme is drawn up in pursuance of the intentions and engagements of the late Bishop Van Mildert, and in accordance with the previous resolution of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to make certain arrangements with respect to the Deanery and Canonries of the Cathedral Church of Durham, with a view to maintaining the University of Durham in a state of respectability and efficiency. The following are the principal provisions of the scheme:—

The office of Warden, upon the first vacancy, is to be attached to the Deanery of Durham—the present Warden receiving £500 annually during his incumbency.

A Canonry in the Cathedral Church is to be attached to each of the Professorships of Divinity and Greek.

The present Professor of Mathematics is to be appointed Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, with an annual salary of £700.

When the office of Warden shall be annexed to the Deanery, the salary of £500 paid to the present Warden during his incumbency, is to be applied to found a Professorship of Hebrew and other Oriental Languages.

In addition to the six Fellowships, already founded by the Dean and Chapter, there are to be founded eighteen Fellowships, making twenty-four such Fellowships in the whole. Two of such eighteen Fellowships are to be founded on the 29th day of September, 1841, and the same number in each year until the year 1849 inclusive. Eight only of the twenty-four Fellows who have exceeded the age of 23, are allowed to continue Laymen. The Lay Fellowships are tenable for eight—the Clerical for ten years. They are to be of the annual value of £120, the ten senior Clerical Fellows receiving £150.

Candidates for Fellowships must have been admitted to the degree of B.A. in the University of Durham, and are to be elected according to the regulations now in force, or such other regulations as shall be duly made for securing the election of the most meritorious candidate, regard being always had to moral character as well as to learning.

The Fellowships are to be vacated by marriage or ecclesiastical preferment.

Towards providing the funds for making these payments, all the estate and interest now vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in the lands, &c., formerly assigned to the Deanery and to the eleventh Canonry of the Cathedral Church of Durham, (all tithes being excepted,) are to be vested in the Warden, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Durham; and when it shall become necessary, further provision is to be made for granting such addicional endowment as may appear to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners necessary for making up the deficiency.

At the same Convocation, the Rev. Edward Massie, M.A., of Wadham College, Oxford, was presented, and admitted *ad eundem*.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,—A Dissolution of Parliament being probably at hand, it becomes my duty to inform you, that the uncertain state of my health, and the time and attention which I find it necessary to give to my own affairs at a distance from London, will not admit of my requesting a renewal of that important trust which you so generously confided to me at the last Election. I feel that I owe much to the kind forbearance with which you have regarded the necessarily imperfect performance of my duties, when illness has at different times prevented my attendance in Parliament. At the same time, I will express a confident hope, that no act or omission of mine has ever injured the cause which I undertook to support. On the contrary, you will find, on referring to my votes, that they have uniformly been given with a view to extend and confirm the Civil and Religious Liberties of the People, and in favour of a policy which I firmly believe is best calculated to promote the general welfare of our country and of mankind.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
With every sentiment of gratitude and repect,
Your faithful Servant,
Brookes's, 25th May, 1841. C. BLACKETT.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,—The course which political events have latterly taken, leads to the conclusion that a Dissolution of Parliament is at hand. I trust, therefore, that a declaration of my intentions at the present moment will not be deemed premature.

From the desire very strongly expressed by many of your body, that I should again become one of your Representatives, I have determined once more to offer myself to your notice. I can refer to my past services with confidence; for although from accidental circumstances I was defeated at the last Election, not a single complaint of my conduct was preferred against me.

Having contended four times for the honour of representing your Borough, my political sentiments must be so well known to you as to render it unnecessary to repeat them on the present occasion. I served you honestly, faithfully, and diligently; and if it shall be your pleasure again to confer upon me the honourable trust to which I aspire, I shall not be less anxious than I have always hitherto been, to fulfil every duty towards you and the country, and so promote to the utmost of my ability your local and general interests.

I lament, Gentlemen, to state, that I am tied to my home by the dangerous illness of one of my sons: I should otherwise have proceeded to Sunderland to pay my personal respects to you. But, thus painfully circumstanced, I am sure I can safely rely upon your generous and kind feelings to excuse my appearance amongst you until the expected Dissolution is announced.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
With the greatest respect, your faithful Servant,
Eastwick Park, May 19th, 1841. D. BARCLAY.

GATESHEAD TEETOTAL FESTIVAL.

A TEA PARTY will be held on WHIT-MONDAY, the 31st instant, in BETHESDA SCHOOL-ROOM, at 5 o'clock; after which, there will be a PUBLIC MEETING in the Chapel, which will be addressed by Messrs. Charlton, Walton, Wilcke, and Dodds.

Tickets for the Tea, 1s. each.—As the Tea will be provided gratuitously, the whole of the proceeds will be devoted to the furtherance of the Temperance Cause in Gateshead.

Gateshead, May 18, 1841.

"AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM."

THE WHIGS AND THE TORIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—The Letter of a "TWO YEARS' SUBSCRIBER," which appeared in your last week's impression, requires, I think, some answer; and I beg your attention, for a few minutes, while I endeavour, as far as lies in my power, to rebut the remarks of your correspondent.

When I first read the letter referred to, I did not know whether its author most deserved applause for his information, or approbation for his impartiality; and though many people may not have been able to distinguish in him the possession of these virtues, I will endeavour to expose them, while I dissect his principles, and analyze his opinions.

Firstly, then, he brings before you the expenditure and revenue of the years 1830 and 1841; and he stalks before you, and triumphantly shouts, "Who are the retrenchers now?" I thank you, Mr. TWO YEARS' SUBSCRIBER, for your question. It gives me an opportunity of answering it. Below is a

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table of the revenue and expenditure for the last 18 or 19 years:—

TORY.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	WHIG.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1823	54,414,650	49,499,130	1831	50,080,000	47,812,000
1824	52,200,000	49,852,000	1832	47,150,000	46,850,000
1825	57,386,000	56,333,000	1833	46,853,000	45,366,000
1826	56,445,000	56,001,842	1834	46,914,590	44,727,000
1827	57,042,000	56,328,421	1835	46,381,000	45,000,000
1828	54,500,000	57,500,000	1836	48,453,000	46,806,000
1829	53,902,000	50,813,322	1837	46,090,000	47,509,000
1830	51,317,000	48,333,522	1838	47,830,803	47,769,000
			1839	48,843,000	49,300,000
			1840	47,443,000	49,285,000
			1841, about	50,500,000	50,731,000
	£437,306,650	£424,661,307		£526,938,593	£521,155,000
Average,	£54,663,221	£53,082,663	Average,	£47,903,508	£47,377,727

Now, Mr. Editor, after the above statement, is any one impudent enough to assert that the Tories are more economical than the whigs? particularly when it is remembered that they have been nearly at war in America, and particularly in Canada—that we have lent a helping hand to Greece, Belgium, Spain, Protugal, and the Porte—that our situation in India has in some parts been precarious, and that we are now at hostilities with China.

But this is not all:—Your *impartial* correspondent allows that the revenue has been increased by two millions—and how has this been done? What new taxes, what new impositions, have been levied upon this overburdened country? Who took off all (or nearly all) the duty on candles, on soap, on leather, on printed cottons, on paper, on newspapers, and on coals? Below is a table showing the taxes imposed and reduced since 1830, with the totals at the foot in round numbers:—

	Imposed.	Reduced.	Clear Reduction.
1830	595,024	4,070,742	3,374,718
1831	627,566	1,588,062	960,466
1832	44,526	747,264	702,738
1833	..	1,532,126	1,532,126
1834	194,394	2,064,516	1,861,122
1835	5,574	162,877	157,302
1836	3,721	1,021,786	1,018,065
	£1,500,000	£11,100,000	£9,600,000

Who at their entrance into office, abolished 1,267 sinecure places, besides 414 in the Customs, and 507 in the Excise? Who reduced by two-fifths their own salaries, together with those over which they had a controul, which made at once a saving of £200,000 a-year?* Who made those excellent changes in our penal code? Who carried that Bill which gave representation to all who had a fair right to demand it? who demolished the Old Poor Law system, which rotted away the sinews of industry, and on which rogues grew fat and honest men were distinguished by their penury and starvation? Who rooted out the rotted Corporations of England? And, lastly, who turned over the dunghill of the Pension List, and showed the nests of reptiles that were feeding in it? Again and again I answer:—The Whigs.

Further:—As to the Postage Act your correspondent informs us that its value is only felt by commercial men! I would ask him if the number of agriculturalists, of mechanics, and of labourers of all descriptions, who could not afford to pay the high rate, are not fifty times more numerous than the commercial class? If he allows that such is the case, I can only say, Charity begins at home; and the man who, with pretended horror at oppression, says, Let us pay 1s. per pound for our free sugar, rather than 6d. for the slave, soon loses all his extreme sanctity, and all his hypocritical justice, when he turns round and informs us that it is useless allowing the lower classes to write cheaply. They are made to be *ground*. From such Tory sentiments, good Heaven deliver us!

In the necessary briefness of a letter, and when I have already taken up too much of your time and space, I cannot answer his jumbled, inaccurate, and nonsensical notions on the Sugar Question; but I think if he reads Lord J. Russell's speech of last week, he will be silenced, if not convinced. His absurd ideas, however, on the Corn Laws I cannot slip, viz., That as he has never seen any other Corn Laws proved, he thinks the present ones amply sufficient. Lord Bacon says, "They are poor discoverers who *think* there is no land, when they *see* nothing by water;" and your correspondent appears of that description. Ought the constituencies of Gatton and Old Sarum to have remained as they were, because a representative system had not been tried and proved at Birmingham? Ought the Old Poor Laws to have remained, because a new one had never been attempted, nor its principles confirmed? Were such the case, there never would be any new laws whatever. But your correspondent seems determined to have Tory rulers, be they good or bad.

"Nihil tetigit, quid non deformavit."

I think no one can doubt in your TWO YEARS' SUBSCRIBER the amiable qualities I have discovered in him; but in his next letter (if I may hazard my advice) he should never write till he is fully conversant with the subject he is pretending to expound.

Yours respectfully,

May 19, 1841. JUNIUS.

* See *Eclectic Review*, 4th series, vol. 8, p. 116.—*Edinburgh Review*, vol. 70, p. 275.

NORTH OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

WE announced, a few weeks ago, the gratifying fact that Thomas Richardson, Esq., of Stamford Hill, London, a member of the Society of Friends, had made the munificent gift of £5,000 towards the establishment of an Agricultural School in the North of England, for the education of the children of Friends.

We have since learned, that this project has for some time been under consideration, and was brought under discussion at the Durham quarterly meeting in October last. Suitable premises were sought in this county, but could not be met with; and the committee, while thus embarrassed at the outset, were agreeably surprised by Mr. Richardson's handsome contribution, and the coincident and welcome offer of an eligible estate at Ayton, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, for the sum of £6,500. The land is good, and extends to 75 acres: the residence substantial, and convenient for the purposes required.

A Master and Mistress (we quote a prospectus published by the Friends) have been appointed, and it is concluded to open the school for the reception of about thirty boys and twenty girls, as soon as the other needful arrangements can be made. The hints and assistance of Friends generally are solicited. It is supposed that in addition to the sum of £1,500 required to complete the purchase, at least as much more will be needful for alterations, furniture, and farm-stock. Towards these amounts we have to report the annexed subscriptions, and would venture to solicit the members of our Society in other parts of the kingdom for such pecuniary aid as their interest in so important an undertaking may dictate. It is evident that upon the generosity of Friends the Committee must to a considerable extent rely for the means to receive pupils of the class contemplated, upon terms as low as the circumstances of their parents generally call for.

The view of Friends is to embrace what may be termed the laboring classes of those who are in any way connected with our Society; combining labour with learning in a perhaps greater degree than is the case at any of our schools, *Brookfield, Ireland, excepted*. It is proposed that their food, clothing, and accommodation altogether, shall be marked by the utmost frugality and simplicity consistent with health and comfort. The object is to induce habits of personal industry, and to fit the young people of both sexes to be useful and happy in those circles in which an unerring Creator has placed them, rather than to prompt them to aspire after more elevated walks of life. At the same time, they would give an education upon which, as a basis, a valuable superstructure can be formed, and from which they may rise, according as Divine Providence may have fitted them for other and more enlarged spheres of action.

The Committee, regarding a really religious education of inestimable value, are especially anxious that in the commencement and carrying forward of the school, nothing may at any time be taught at variance with the blessed truths of revealed religion, as declared in Holy Scripture; or (as connected therewith) the Christian views and testimonies maintained by our Society from the beginning, and illustrated in the volume of "rules of discipline and advices," revised and published by the yearly meeting of London in 1833. They believe that the great doctrines of the Gospel of peace are by no people more comprehensively held, and by none viewed in a light more calculated to promote present happiness and eternal peace; and therefore consider that it will be a duty and a privilege, to have all the children committed to their care educated IN ALL RESPECTS AS FRIENDS.

The "annexed subscriptions," above alluded to, amount to £1,000, and are chiefly contributed by Friends in Darlington, Stockton, Norton, Durham, Sunderland, Shields, and Newcastle. We need not *urge* the claims of the institution upon the liberality of members of the Society who have not yet subscribed: it will be sufficient that we bring them under their notice. But we know from experience that the general public of the North of England require "line upon line, and precept upon precept," in behalf of the establishment of a general Agricultural School; and we do therefore most earnestly press upon their attention the example of the Quakers. May it provoke them to emulation.

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RHYMING REPORT OF A RECENT HARANGUE.

[At the close of the public meeting in Sunderland, a scrap of paper was picked up near the seat which had been occupied by the LAUREATE of the *Northern Times*; and written upon it was a metrical version of Mr. WRIGHT's speech, with which the political wag had amused himself during the row kicked up by his friends around him. Having been favoured with a copy, we cannot withhold it from our readers.]

GENTLEMEN all!
You've oft heard me bawl
In political confabulation;
And never, you know,
A hair's breadth did I go,
In one single long-winded oration,
From what, in my youth,
I stood up for as truth!
(*An ironical cheer,*
And cries of "Hear, hear!")
My creed I've ne'er changed:
I never have ranged
From party to party for pelf.
No person can say
I'm a Swiss, and for pay
Will any day barter myself.
I never have swerved
From my creed, but preserved
My integrity free from a stain:
In peace or in strife,
Consistent through life
I have been, and will ever remain!
(*Laughter and jeers,*
Significant cheers,
And cries of "Old Joe
"Is a good un to go!")
All trucklers and swervers,
All trimming time-servers,
All Esau-like scamps,
Who care not what camps
They eat in, or dwell,
If they only can sell
Their services well,
I hate and detest
As a scandal and pest!
Compared with such fellows how proudly I stand,
In the midst of a pure and unchangeable band—
Ashburton, and Stanley, and Daddy Burdett,
Graham, Ritson, and Lyndhurst:—nor must we forget
Kit Potts, who although but a little bit shrimp,
So bothers the Whigs, that they think him an imp
Sent up from below, on a mission to spoil
All their schemes, and involve the Queen's friends in a broil.
(*Potts blushes and bows:*
The Chartists make rows:
The Whigs cry "Hear, hear!"
The Tories look queer.)
I think you'll all own, in the Temple of Fame
I've earned for myself an undying good name!
("*Yes*, JUDAS! *no doubt*,"
The people cry out.)
When you know, my good friends, how deeply I hate
All tricky manœuvres in Church and in State,
You may judge how it shocked me to find that Lord John
Had determined to make such a horrid "try on!"
That he and Lord Melbourne, who long had withstood
The clamorous cry of the "League" for Cheap Food,
Had declared for Reform in Corn, Sugar, and Wood!
This movement, you all must perceive, is a scheme
By which the base Whigs hope to "get up the steam,"
And keep out the Tories—who, if they were in,
Would soon make the People's Millennium begin!
(*A wag cried aloud,*
From the midst of the crowd,
"Don't you wish you may get it?" and made the folks laugh.
"Old birds," said another, "aren't taken with chaff!"
The speaker looked just as though nothing he heeded,
And thus with his oily oration proceeded):—
Why get up a bustle
For Melbourne and Russell?
The populace must
In the Whigs never trust,
Or they'll find, to their cost,
All their hopes will be crossed.
Myself, and a thousand such true-hearted men,
Are ready to serve you with tongue and with pen.
And I am a pledge to the popular cause,
That if for the Tories you'll raise your huzzahs,
Your confidence will not be given to folks
Who, turning their coats, will thus play you a hoax,
And, fiendishly laughing, leave you in the lurch,
While they prop up abuses in State and in Church.
No! no! if Joe Wright you will take as your leader,
You'll ne'er have to mourn an apostate seceder!
(*Laughter uproarious!*
Tories all glorious!
Chartists, victorious,
Roaring like Boreas!
Joe the notorious,
Can't get a hearing for cries of "Hear! hear!"
So here I cut short
My rhyming report
Of his speech and the sport,
Which beat any scene
That ever has been
Either heard of or seen
In any past age on the banks of the Wear!)

NEWCASTLE AND SHIELDS RAILWAY.
SUMMER RUNNING,
COMMENCING ON MONDAY, 24th MAY.

TIMES OF THE TRAINS.

FROM NEWCASTLE.

Morning—At 7, 8, 8½ (Mail, in 12 minutes), 9, 9½ (Mail, in 12 minutes), 10, 10½ (Mail, in 12 minutes), 11, and 12 o'clock.

Afternoon—At 1, 2, 3, 3½ (Mail, in 12 minutes), 4, 4½ (Mail, in 12 minutes), 5, 6, 7, 8, and 8½ o'clock.

FROM SHIELDS.

Morning—At 7½, 8½, 9 (Mail, in 12 minutes), 9½, 10 (Mail, in 12 minutes), 10½, 11 (Mail, in 12 minutes), and 11½ o'clock.

Afternoon—At 12½, 1½, 2½, 3½, 4 (Mail, in 12 minutes), 4½, 5 (Mail, in 12 minutes), 5½, 6½, 7½, 8½, and 9 o'clock.

ON SUNDAYS.

FROM NEWCASTLE.

Morning—At 8, 9, half-past 9, 10 minutes before 10, and a quarter after 10 o'clock.

Afternoon—A. 1, half-past 1, 2, half-past 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, half-past 6, 7, half-past 7, 8, and half-past 8 o'clock.

FROM SHIELDS.

Morning—At half past 8, half-past 9, 10, and half-past 10 o'clock.

Afternoon—At 1, half-past 1, half-past 2, half-past 3, half-past 4, half-past 5, 6, half-past 6, 7, half-past 7, 8, half-past 8, and 9 o'clock.

The Mail-trains, of first and second-class carriages, will NOT call at any of the Stations.

All the other Trains will call at the Stations, viz.:—Heaton-hall lane, Carville, Howdon, and Percy Main.

On SUNDAYS there will be no MAIL-TRAINS—every Train calling at the Stations.

The Station at Walker WILL BE DISCONTINUED.

FARES.

First Class, 1s.——Second Class, 9d.——Third Class, 6d.

From the Stations:—1st Class, 9d.——2nd and 3rd Class, 6d.

Mail:—1st Class, 1s.——2nd Class, 9d.

Railway Office, Newcastle, May 15, 1841.

MAIL TRAINS TO SHIELDS IN 12 MINUTES, TYNEMOUTH IN 25 MINUTES.
NEWCASTLE AND SHIELDS RAILWAY.

THE DIRECTORS of this Railway, anxious to afford every facility to the Public, beg to intimate that, in addition to the regular Trains, a MAIL for first and second class Passengers will commence running on Monday the 24th instant, as follows:—

From Newcastle	*From Shields.*
8½, 9½ 10½, Morning.	9, 10, 11, Morning.
3½, 4½ Afternoon.	4, 5, Afternoon.

The Mail Trains will not stop at any of the stations, and to render it especially convenient to families visiting Tynemouth,

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arrangements have been made to ensure their arrival there within half-an-hour from the time of their leaving Newcastle. A luggage van will also be attached to the Mail for Tynemouth luggage only, and will arrive at Tynemouth same time as the Passengers.

*** Parties are requested to Direct their Luggage.

BRANDLING JUNCTION AND DURHAM JUNCTION RAILWAYS.

EXPEDITIOUS CONVEYANCE OF GOODS—DAILY—from Newcastle, Shields, Sunderland, Monkwearmouth, to West Boldon, Washington, Pensher, Fence Houses, Houghton-le-Spring, Hetton, Rainton, and forwarded to all parts of the South.

J. & J. THOMPSON beg most respectfully to inform their Friends and the Public, that they now despatch all Goods for the South by way of Stockton; by which means Goods are greatly facilitated, and conveyed at very Low Rates of Carriage.

In order to prevent irregularity, it is particularly requested that all Goods intended for this Conveyance be directed to the care of J. & J. THOMPSON; and those that wish to convey their own Goods from the Railway, can have NOTICE, by omnibus (IF THAT ROUTE) on the arrival of the same.

The Recorder of Newcastle, in a letter to John Ridley, Esq., Mayor of that borough, says:—

Harperley Park, 23d May, 1841.

MY DEAR MR. MAYOR,—I much regret that I shall be prevented the promised pleasure of attending you at the dinner to-morrow, in celebration of her Majesty's birthday: a very severe attack of cold, taken on my journey from London last week, has entirely disqualified me from joining for the present any convivial party.

Allow me to take this opportunity of noticing an allusion, in the reported speech of a member of the Town Council on Wednesday last, to some opinion stated to have been given by me, as Recorder of Newcastle, upon the subject of the legitimate functions of the municipal body. I have no recollection of the precise facts of any case upon which such an opinion was elicited from me; and, of course, I cannot undertake to say under what modifications, or with what allowances, it was to be understood.

But this much I will without hesitation now say—that, if I ever ventured to suggest a doubt of the right—aye, or of the duty of the municipal body, as the representatives, within their town, of a great commercial and trading community, to meet together to discuss the justice or expediency of any tax felt to press with peculiar severity upon those interests—and to petition (if thought fit) for relief therefrom—I must, for the moment, have totally forgotten, not only my own duty, but my long-cherished and (I hope) unchangeable sentiments. And I will add, that, dependent as I am in a great measure upon the prosperity of the agricultural interest for the maintenance of myself and of a numerous family, there is yet not in the whole Town Council a hand that would more promptly than mine, be put to a petition in favour of the proposed ministerial modification of that senseless and baneful impost, the present Corn Law. Believe me always, my dear Mr. Mayor, faithfully and respectfully yours, GEO. H. WILKINSON.

We thank Mr. Alexander George Gray for having elicited the foregoing letter from the worthy Recorder.

The Rev. Joseph Blanco White died on the 20th inst., in his 67th year, at the house of William Rathbone, Esq., near Liverpool. His life (says the *Liverpool Mercury*) was one of nearly constant suffering, and for the last four years of most painful and distressing confinement. Through all he had to endure, his sentiments and words, "even to the end," were, "I must not complain: all is right: my God is my keeper." In bodily agonies, to which no relief could be administered, he repeatedly said, "Had I the power to alter this, I would not use it: my God, I thank thee that I would not."

The Queen's birth-day drawing-room, on the 21st inst., at St. James's, was very numerously attended. Her Majesty was attended by the Marchioness of Normanby; and the Archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by the Bishops of Durham, Ripon, &c., presented an address of congratulation. The Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Duchess of Northumberland, the Marquis of Normanby, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, the Earl and Countess of Listowel, Earl and Countess Zetland, Earl and Countess Powis, Earls Minto and Darlington, Countesses Tankerville and Anne of Newburgh, Viscount and Viscountess Howick, Viscount and Viscountess Milton, Viscount Melbourne, Viscountess Dungannon, Lord and Lady Leveson, Lady Ravensworth, Lords Morpeth and Prudhoe, Mrs. Maltby, the Hon. J. C. Dundas, Mr. P. H. Howard, and Mr. Childers, were among the company present on the occasion. The Marquis of Normanby, Earl of Minto, and other Cabinet Ministers, gave dinners in the evening.

The Mayor of Newcastle (John Ridley, Esq.) gave a grand dinner at the Assembly Rooms on Monday last, to about 90 of his friends, in commemoration of Her Majesty's birthday. The Vice-Chairmen on the occasion were the Sheriff (James Archbold, Esq.) and Mr. Ald. Lamb; and amongst the company were the Vicar of Newcastle, the Rev. R. Green, a large majority of the Justices of the Peace, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough, the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs, the Master of the Trinity House, and Messrs. C. J. Bigge, G. H. Ramsay, W. Armstrong, C. Allhusen, T. Grieveson, E. H. Campbell, W. Woods, H. Heath, S. Parker, Philip Laing, and R. Shortridge; also, Messrs. Price, Andrew, Wilson, Brockett, and Graham, of this borough. The well-known merits of Mr. Haigh's festive boards, render it almost unnecessary to say that the dinner, wines, &c., were of the best and most sumptuous description, and gave every satisfaction to the very numerous and pleasant company that partook of them.—Earlier in the day, the Dismounted Yeomanry fired a salute on the Sandhill—the Mayor and other gentlemen drank her Majesty's health in the open air—the castle-guns were fired, the bells rung, &c. The *Newcastle Journal*, on Saturday last, stated:—"The Queen of these realms entered upon the 23d year of her age yesterday, the 21st instant, on which occasion the usual demonstrations of loyalty and respect were *not*, under the auspices of our reformed Corporation, observed in this ancient town." Here we have an untruth and a calumny. Her Majesty did *not* enter upon her 23d year on the 21st inst., but on the 24th. On the former day, her birthday, for the convenience of the fashionable world, was "kept" in London; and the example of the metropolis was followed in many parts of the provinces. In other places—Newcastle for one—it was otherwise arranged. Mr. Ridley's invitations for the 24th were sent out some weeks ago, as the *Journal* probably knew; but an opportunity to libel the loyalty of the "reformed Corporation" could not, of course, be lost by our cunning contemporary, whose present cue it is to affect a pre-eminent anxiety for the honour of the Crown!—MAY 29.

The Gateshead Fell Public Rooms are progressing admirably. The building is already a considerable height, and promises to be creditable alike to its builders and supporters. Subscriptions, we understand, will still be most acceptable. We trust we shall not have to remind the public of this again.

EXTENT OF THE SUGAR TAX.—In the year from April, 1840, to April, 1841, the people of Britain paid (in addition to the duty) the almost incredible sum of £6,290,959 *above* the price at which sugar might have been bought even in London, and *above* the price at which it is bought in all the other markets of the world. As this may seem beyond belief, we shall give proof of the fact. The quantity of sugar retained for home consumption in the year 1840, was 3,594,834 cwts., or 402,621,408 lbs. In a circular issued by the Brazilian Association of Liverpool, signed "Chas. Saunders, Chairman," (and abundantly confirmed by the Prices Current of the day,) it is stated "that the average price of Brazil sugar, in bond, from April, 1840, to April, 1841, has been less than 2½d. per lb., whilst that of West India, also in bond, has been 6¼d. per lb." It appears, then, that West India sugar was dearer than Brazil sugar by 3¾d. per lb. Now multiply the consumption of the year 1840, namely 402,621,408 lbs. by 3¾d., and the result is £6,290,959, as the sum which the people of the United Kingdom paid in that one year beyond the price at which they might have bought Brazil sugar. Of this enormous sum, £5,379,846 went into the pockets of the West India planters alone, as the quantity of British Plantation sugar consumed in 1840 was 3,074,198 cwts. out of a total consumption of 3,594,834 cwts. Thus, the tax paid by the people to the West Indians, purely for protection, is at least £5,000,000 sterling per annum, in addition to the tax of £4,449,070 paid as Customs duty to the government. At this rate the English people, who paid the West India planters £20,000,000 for that which has turned out to be no sacrifice on their part, are paying the £20,000,000 over again every four years. Is not this intolerable?—*Leeds Mercury*.

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Mrs. Catherine Gray and Miss Jane Williamson of Gateshead Fell, have each taken five shares in the Public Rooms; and Mr. Thomas Ismay Procter, of Gateshead, two shares.

Mr. W. Barkus, of Allerdean, on Monday last, was presented by the proprietor, agents, and workmen of Team colliery, with a handsome silver tankard and salver, bearing a suitable inscription, as a testimony of their respect and esteem for his attention and services as viewer during a period of 30 years. Mr. Barkus is now appointed viewer to the Seaton Delaval Coal Company, vacant by the death of the late J. Straker, Esq.; and his son, Mr. W. Barkus, jun. succeeds him as viewer at Team colliery.—JUNE 5.

One of the patent-boilers of Mr. Price, of Gateshead, weighing about five tons, was erected on Friday, the 28th ult., at the works of Messrs. Edward Robson & Co., Swalwell. "It proves superior (says a correspondent) to anything of the kind hitherto introduced. Steam was generated, on the day of its erection, in 29 minutes after lighting the fire, with 114lb. of coal, leaving a fire in excellent order. The quantity of water at the time was 1,000 gallons." Mr. Price, we understand, is about to send one of his boilers to Woolwich, the Admiralty having granted him permission to have it erected in the Government works.—JUNE 5.

The Guardians of the Gateshead Union met on Tuesday, when the Clerk read a letter from the Poor Law Commissioners, declining to confirm the appointment of Mrs. Cleghorn as Matron of the new workhouse.—JUNE 5.

The annual examination of the scholars of the Jubilee School, Newcastle, took place yesterday, when the result was, as we have before had the pleasure of recording, most honourable to the boys, and to their able and persevering teacher, Mr. Springmann. The Mayor of Newcastle was unable to preside, we regret to learn, in consequence of indisposition. The specimens of penmanship, maps, geometrical figures, &c., by several of the boys, were numerous—all of them creditable—and many of them very excellent. The venerable Mr. Turner, we rejoice to say, was at his post as usual, the kind friend and adviser of the boys. The number of scholars at present is about 400.—JUNE 5.

The anniversary meeting of the Schoolmasters' Association, Newcastle, was held on Whit-Monday, when the accounts for the year were read, and other business transacted. The expenditure for the support of the aged and infirm members and widows had amounted to nearly £240, and the income had enabled the treasurer to meet all demands upon him, and leave a small balance. The members and friends dined together at the George inn, (the Mayor of Newcastle in the chair: Rev. W. Turner, vice). Amongst those present were:—The Sheriff of Newcastle, William Chapman, Esq., Thomas Wilson, Esq., S. Lowrey, Esq., J. Fenwick, Esq., Mr. Charnley, &c., &c. Several toasts were drank and appropriate addresses delivered, and the company separated highly gratified with the proceedings. The following subscriptions were announced:—The Mayor, T. Bell, Esq., T. Wilson, Esq., W. Andrew, Esq., and the Editor of the *Gateshead Observer*, £1 each; R. Leadbitter, Esq., and T. Sopwith, Esq., £1 1s. each; Mr. Bates, solicitor, 10s. 6d.; and Mr. Robinson, 10s.

Mr. T. M. Greenhow, at the monthly meeting of the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society, on Tuesday last, read a paper on "The External Circumstances which influence Health." These circumstances are partly natural and partly artificial, and both kinds are worthy of the most attentive observation; for the moral and intellectual well-being of man is intimately connected with the state of his physical organization. The "causes" which are of a natural kind are chiefly those which exist in the condition of the atmosphere—its dryness or moisture—stillness or nobility among its particles—no doubt also its electrical state, and the emanations from the soil or from natural processes which go on at the surface of the earth. Our climate, although uncertain, appears, from statistical documents, to be even less unhealthy than the more equal climates of the south. The author (whose paper we are condensing) proceeded to point out the influence of cultivation of the soil in diminishing the frequency of agues, and diseases of that class, arising from emanations of decaying vegetable matter. The chemical nature of those substances, whose presence in the atmosphere gives rise to disease, is as yet scarcely known. Under the head of artificial causes, Mr. Greenhow stated it to be his opinion that with due attention to the removal of those, the health of inhabitants of towns would be superior to that of those who live in the country; and he read some passages from the recent report laid before Parliament, proving the dependance of contagious disease in large towns on defective ventilation. After applying many of the data obtained to the condition of Newcastle, which is superior to that of many large towns, (although much yet remains to be done in draining the town, and carrying new streets through many of its most crowded and dirty parts,) the author proceeded to point out the utility of improving the Leazes and Town Moor, by plantations, walks, &c.; and suggested that means might be found to reconcile this with the interests of the Freemen.—Dr. Glover praised the example set by Mr. Greenhow to professional men, in bringing such subjects before the public; and after making some remarks on the nature of the poisonous principles and miasmata which give rise to contagious and epidemic diseases, and the mode in which they are supposed to act, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Greenhow, which was unanimously agreed to. [We understand that, many years ago, a plan for improving, planting, and beautifying the Leazes and Moor, was brought forward by the late Mr. Robert Nichols, which, after encountering much obloquy from the Freemen, although he showed that their interests would be benefited by the change, he was obliged to abandon.]—JUNE 5.

An elegant mural monument, to the memory of the late Joseph Willis, Esq., has been executed by Mr. Softly, of this borough, and placed in the chancel of St. Mary's church. The expense of the memorial has been defrayed by a number of the deceased gentleman's friends. The inscription is as follows:

To the Memory of
JOSEPH WILLIS, Esquire,
who was born at Durham, Dec. 27, 1768,
died at Gateshead, August 13, 1840, in his 72nd year,
and was buried in this churchyard,
in the hope of a joyful resurrection
through Jesus Christ.
During a residence of 46 years in Gateshead,
he exercised extensive influence,
and devoted himself to the interests of the parish,
as one of the "Four-and-Twenty,"
as Secretary to the Borough, and as Churchwarden.
He was a skilful Lawyer,
identified in feeling with his clients:
a kind, warm-hearted man,
of clear judgment, and full of information,
which he was always ready to communicate.
This Monument is erected by some of his Friends,
to testify their regret at his loss,
and to commemorate his public services
and private worth.

The children of the schools connected with St. Thomas's Church, Newcastle, in number about 360, were examined after divine service on Whit-Monday, in presence of the congregation, by the Rev. Richard Clayton, by whom they were afterwards most appropriately addressed.

At Gateshead Fell, on Sunday, May 30th, aged 66, Isabella, wife of Mr. Joshua Parkinson, banksman at Derwent Crook colliery. She had been severely afflicted upwards of twenty years, and bore her sufferings, during that protracted period, with the most Christian resignation.

REPRESENTATION OF GATESHEAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

RESPECTED SIR,—I hope you will find room for these communications. Their insertion will greatly oblige your's, &c.

Gateshead, June 3, 1841. CHAS. CROSS.

GATESHEAD, JUNE 1st.—The members of the Charter Association met in their room, opposite the Flying Horse, Oakwellgate, at eight o'clock this evening, when it was agreed unanimously, that the correspondence between Mr. Hutt, M.P. for Hull, and the Association, be published; and that there be a full meeting, and the public requested to attend, on Tuesday evening next, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of taking into consideration the course to be acted upon at the next general election; also that the room be opened every Wednesday evening for discussion. The subject of next week to be the Corn Laws—when any one, whether a member of the Association or not, will be allowed to take a part.

"Gateshead, 15th May, 1841.

"HONOURED SIR,—The Chartists of this town, at their weekly meeting held this evening, passed the following resolution:—'That William Hutt, Esq., M.P., be respectfully requested to attend a public meeting

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of the inhabitants of Gateshead, (convened by the Mayor,) to afford him an opportunity of stating his political opinions, previous to the anticipated dissolution of Parliament; and that the Secretary be instructed to correspond with him upon the subject. In compliance with which, I beg respectfully to request you to appoint an early day, when the inhabitants of this borough will make arrangements for your reception.

"Your obedient Servant,

"EDWARD SCURFIELD.

"P.S.—An hour in the evening would suit the working classes best.—E. S."

"London, 20th May, 1841.

"MR. EDWARD SCURFIELD,—So long as Parliament is sitting, it would be inconvenient to the constituency of Hull, and to myself, that I should be absent from London. A dissolution of Parliament is supposed by many persons to be near at hand. It may, however, not take place till next year. These circumstances will, I trust, sufficiently explain why I do not comply with the request which you have transmitted to me from the Chartists of Gateshead.

"Your faithful Servant,

"WILLIAM HUTT."

"Gateshead, 26th May, 1841.

"MR. HUTT,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th inst., and in reply to which I am instructed to state, that your direct refusal to meet the *honest* people of Gateshead is not so much a source of mortification to the 'Chartists' as to the highly respectable inhabitants who signed the requisition to the Mayor. As to a dissolution of Parliament, whenever it may take place, it will in all probability not be '*inconvenient*' to you, at that time, to wait upon the electors of the borough of Gateshead; but I am instructed to inform you, that your refusal to comply with the reasonable and respectful request of a powerful body of men, leaves them no alternative but to invite another gentleman, who will not find it 'inconvenient' honestly to meet the people, and frankly give his opinion upon the various political questions of the day; and if not a cordial, I can assure you of a warm reception, not only from the people, but from an influential body of electors.

"Your obedient Servant."

[We cheerfully give admission to the foregoing communication from Mr. Cross. But we must accompany it with our own opinion upon the matter. Mr. Hutt, it would seem, expressed his readiness to attend a public meeting, whenever he could do so *without neglecting his Parliamentary duties*. We commend him: we think that the obligation upon him to remain at his post in London, was greater than his obligation to leave town for Gateshead. This is our opinion—and we freely express it. On the other hand, if Mr. Hutt should ever evince a disinclination to meet the people of this borough, and state his political views, we shall just as freely condemn the honourable gentleman.—ED. G. O.]

THE NEWCASTLE FEVER HOSPITAL.

A PRINTED Report of the year ending April 30, 1841, has been transmitted to us, and we will endeavour that it shall be of some service to the public.

The document before us proves two things—the great usefulness of the institution, and the inadequate support which it receives.

First, its usefulness:—From its establishment in 1805, down to the present time, upwards of 1,800 patients have been admitted into this house of recovery from contagious fever.

In the year to which the report more especially refers, the numbers were:—

	Admitted.	Died.	Cured.	Remain.
Continued fever	107	12	92	3
Intermittent fever ..	3	0	3	0
Scarlet fever.....	2	0	2	0
Smallpox	2	1	0	1
	114	13	97	4

Of the 13 deaths, one was the result of cholera, when the patient was convalescent from continued fever; two females (one admitted moribund) died of peritonitis, with which the fever was complicated; a man, who died suddenly, was affected, in all probality, with a disease of the heart; and five were either moribund, or in a hopeless state, when they reached the hospital—(the practice being too common of procrastinating the removal of patients from their own houses, by which means their chances of recovery are greatly diminished, and the disease is more widely extended.)

The committee (we quote the report) think it their duty to acknowledge the promptitude with which the parochial authorities have sent such patients into the hospital as were deemed proper objects for removal by the medical gentlemen of the Dispensary, who visit so large a proportion of the sick poor; by which means a powerful check has been at once given to virulent cases, as well as to the progress of the epidemic. The institution has not a little contributed to the security of persons in other ranks of life, inasmuch as a number of the patients admitted have been domestic servants, by whose removal into its comfortable and well-ventilated apartments the families with whom they lived have been preserved from so fatal a scourge. It has also proved a ready and valuable asylum to poor foreigners, and to sailors who have been sent from both British and foreign vessels lying in the harbour.

All the attendants of the hospital, we are told by the committee, have escaped the disease, with the exception of one nurse—*a woman of intemperate habits*, who refused to submit to the necessary treatment, and died after a few days' illness.

The number of patients admitted in the two previous years exceeded that of the year ending April 30, 1841, but not so largely as to warrant the conclusion that the epidemic is on the decline.

There is, however, an undoubted decline in the resources of the charity.

The committee, on referring to the treasurer's accounts, regret to find that the funds of the institution are far from being in a good state, the balance in his hands being upwards of £40 less than it was at the close of the last year. The amount received on account of patients from their respective parishes and friends has been much less; and this, *combined with the high price of every article of food*,* has contributed to the above result. It is a matter of surprise to them that an institution of such public utility as the Fever Hospital should receive less support from the inhabitants than any other within the walls of the town, the annual subscriptions amounting only to £74 11s., thus rendering the institution dependent on casual donations, and the sums derived from patients, which are inad-quate to its support. Motives of interest as well as of humanity should lead the public to support such an institution; for by lessening mortality and preventing the spread of disease among the poor, they will materially diminish parochial expenditure, which is always greatest during epidemic seasons. How can it be otherwise, when a family loses its father by death, or when illness prevents him from providing for the wants of his offspring? The Committee, then, would respectfully appeal to the public for support, and beg to state that subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the treasurer, J. Anderson, Esq., at the bank of Messrs. Lambton & Co., Dean-street; or by the secretary at the Dispensary.

We earnestly support the appeal of the committee. May the response be such as becomes a Christian people!

* See here how the Bread Tax, and the other Imposts on Provisions, affect even our public charities, crippling their usefulness, and endangering the health of the whole community.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	Cout, Joseph	Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	Cummins, T.	Hymers, Jas.	Rowntree, W.
Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	p Kemmir, Wm.	Sowerby, G.
p Hall, Michael	Fairbairn, J.	p Lister, John	Swan, Walker
p Pollock, James	Forster, S.	p Potts, John	Wight, John
p Wilson, Thos.		p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked p were present.]

THE Council met on Wednesday, June 9th—Mr. Ald. HALL in the chair, (the Mayor being absent at a funeral).

The TOWN CLERK read a letter, received as the Council were assembling. It was as follows:—

Newcastle, June 8th, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 4th inst., and a copy of an order made at a quarterly meeting of the Council of the borough of Gateshead, on the 5th of May, having been laid before a meeting of the Directors this day, and taken into consideration, I was directed in reply to state, that when application was made to the Company for a watering place in lieu of one which it was alleged the public had a right to, at a place you denominate the Pothouse-quay, it was resolved, without at all entering into the question as to such right, that such should be made. In pursuance of such resolution, a very convenient place has been made, much superior to any accommodation which was before afforded to the public, whether of right or by usage; and when the subject is properly considered by the Council, the Railway Company feel satisfied that they will be convinced that such is the case.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

JOHN ADAMSON, Clerk to the Company.

W. Kell, Esq., Town Clerk of Gateshead.

Much surprise and indignation was expressed at the terms of this letter, which were declared to be grossly inaccurate and unbecoming. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this Council do not observe anything in the communication received from the Secretary of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company, to cause them to rescind the order of the Council, passed at the last meeting. That Mr. Adamson's letter be referred to the Railway Committee, with instructions to see the order of the Council carried into immediate effect.

The TOWN CLERK read a letter from the Home Office, suggesting alterations in the proposed Bye Laws. One alteration had reference to loiterers on footpaths, against whom the Home Office thought the Council were legislating unnecessarily. The Bye-Laws Committee thought differently, and they recommended the Council to abide by their enactment touching

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obstructions created by loitering loungers. To the other amendments of the Home Secretary, they had no objection.

The Report of the Bye-Laws Committee was received: to adopt it was out of the power of the Council, there being a less proportion than two-thirds of the members present.

The Town Clerk read a Report of the proceedings in connection with the Newcastle Improvement Bill, the details of which, as well as the successful result of the Council's opposition, are already known to our readers. The Report stated, that Mr. Hedworth Lambton, Mr. Bowes, and Mr. Hutt, had rendered valuable assistance to the Council in their exertions to protect the interests of the borough of Gateshead. Mr. Rippon's private address was not known to the Town Clerk, but a letter was sent to him at the Reform Club. Whether or not this letter had reached the Hon. Member for Gateshead, was not known.

Mr. Potts inquired if the Town Clerk ever saw Mr. Rippon personally, while he was in London.

The Town Clerk replied in the affirmative. He met Mr. Rippon on one occasion, and named the Bill to him. Mr. Rippon promised to attend the Committee, but this he never did.

A Report was presented from the Market Committee, with plans of a new street from High-street to Oakwellgate, north of (and near to) the railway-bridge. The Brandling Junction Railway Company proposed to make this street, and to include a market in the improvement; and as, under their plans, the Pipehouse-entry would be built upon, (the thoroughfare being removed a little further to the north,) it was necessary that the consent of the Council should be obtained. The Committee recommended that leave should be given, on condition that the public be provided with a new thoroughfare, before the present entry be closed.—The Report was confirmed.

The Town Clerk read a letter from Mr. Swinburne, written on behalf of the County Magistrates who sit weekly at the Goat. Those gentlemen, their Clerk stated, were anxious to cease holding petty sessions at an inn, and wished to know on what terms the Council would grant them the use of the Borough Justice Room. After a short conversation, it was resolved that the room be granted for £10 a-year—that sum to include cleaning, &c.—The meeting broke up, after transacting other business.

TO THE ELECTORS OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with the promise which I made to you in 1839, when a considerable majority of the Electors of your Borough honoured me with an invitation to offer myself as a Candidate for Gateshead, I abandon my political connection, now of some duration, with one of the most important towns in this country, to solicit the distinction of representing you in the House of Commons.

It is not without regret—permit me to say so—that I terminate my relations with the liberal and generous Constituency of Hull. During all the agitating events of the last nine years, they surrounded me with encouragements the most animating, with kindness the most indulgent, with confidence that never changed or tired. Their importance lent me a consideration in public life, to which, personally, I had little pretension, and it was a deep gratification to me to remark, that after having been their Representative in three successive Parliaments, I was still the object of their unabated reliance and good-will. Gentlemen, all this I forego, that I may take my seat among the Representatives of the nation in the name of the Electors of Gateshead. The trust and esteem of those who, in private and in public life, are best acquainted with our conduct, is a prize worthy of the highest ambition; and to obtain from such a body of Electors a seat in the House of Commons, won by no other efforts, purchased by no other means, than the influence which character produces on enlightened and honourable minds, is among the proudest of human distinctions.

My political opinions, generally, cannot be unknown to you. You have seen them practically tested through years of trial and emergency. They are the opinions entertained by our departed friend, the Earl of Durham, and are the more cherished and respected by my mind, because they were his.

That the people of this country may possess adequate means of guarding their rights and promoting their interests, I am the advocate of Shorter Parliaments than are sanctioned by the Septennial Act—of Suffrage more extensive than is provided by the Reform Bill—and of Protection to every Elector in the Exercise of that Suffrage, only to be realized by the Ballot.

Above all Liberties, I contend for Liberty of Conscience. My maxim has ever been, Equal Rights to all Classes of Men and to all Denominations of Christians. A member of the Established Church myself, I have no wish to see that Church exalted by the exercise of domination over those who dissent from its doctrines, or who decline obedience to its discipline. The pretensions of the Establishment to spiritual superiority, as manifested in the forced contributions to the Church Rate, and in the occasional proceedings of our Ecclesiastical Courts, are inconsistent with my notions of Religious Freedom. I wish to see such things abolished.

I am the friend of Education—of National and Universal Education. I regard it as one of the most sacred methods of ameliorating the moral, social, and political condition of the country—as one of the best securities to the people from the errors of Government, and to Government from danger in times of popular suffering and excitement.

Of a Reform of our Commercial Policy I have long been a not inactive promoter. I have long been of opinion that the barriers which the erroneous calculations of selfishness have established here, have deprived us of many advantages which the energy and intelligence of our people, and the natural circumstances of our country, would otherwise have secured to us. I believe that they are largely responsible for the stagnation of industry, and uncontrollable distress, which are now pervading the land.

The principle which all individuals understand in private life, of buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest market, seems to me the true policy of nations. However advantageous to a few persons in the State the contrary system may be found, I believe that to the public it is fruitful in nothing but evil.

Corn Laws, Timber Laws, Sugar Laws—all Laws for the Regulation of Trade framed on any other principle than that of interfering as little as possible with its operations—I regard as so many enactments for impoverishing and oppressing the people. In the ensuing Elections, when Monopoly will perhaps make its last struggle for dominion, may the people know their own interests! May they stand up for themselves and for their own righteous cause!

Such, Gentlemen, are the opinions on some of the most important questions of national policy on which I am prepared to act, if elected by you as the Representative of Gateshead. As soon as the Dissolution of Parliament shall have terminated my obligations to my present constituents, I shall consider it my duty to present myself personally to your notice, and to lay before you, frankly and amply, any further explanation you may desire. For such a development of my sentiments there shall be no want of opportunity. In the mean time, you will not, I am sure, construe it as any mark of disrespect to you, that I am faithful to the trust committed to me by the Electors of Hull. Were I, at this important moment, to disregard the commercial and political interests of the great constituency I represent, I should be affording an indifferent earnest of future attention to yours.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your very humble and obedient Servant,
London, June 9, 1841. WILLIAM HUTT.

ELECTION FOR THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

THE ELECTORS of the Borough of Gateshead, who are desirous of promoting the Return of WILLIAM HUTT, Esq., as their Representative in Parliament, are requested to meet at Freeman's Long Room, Grey Horse Inn, Gateshead, on MONDAY EVENING, the 14th inst., at seven o'clock, to form a Committee, and take such other steps as may be then thought desirable.

Gateshead, 12th June, 1841.

DERWENT CROOK COLLIERY.

STEAM-BOILER EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Again we have to record one of those melancholy accidents of so frequent occurrence in connection with steam-boilers.

This calamity occurred at what is commonly called the "Brecken-Beds Pit," in Derwent Crook Colliery, near Gates-

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head, on Saturday afternoon, May 29, at about 4 o'clock. The engineer, Michael Almond, was killed by the explosion—another of the men, Cuthbert Young, expired within 48 hours of the accident—a third, William Morpeth, a married man with three children, was dangerously injured—and eight others were more or less bruised or scalded.

In the course of the afternoon, several of the workmen were engaged in fitting on a new rope to the machinery for drawing up the coal, and at the time of the explosion were taking some refreshment in the engine-house. Some of them were scalded by the steam, and others injured by the falling of the stones.

Michael Almond, it is supposed, had received a momentary intimation of what was to happen; for he had rushed from the house, and nearly reached the road, when a portion of the boiler struck him on the side, and knocked him down. Then, the main body of the boiler, which had been carried over the engine-house by the force of the explosion, fell upon his legs, and completely severed one of them in sunder. He was quite dead when taken up. The deceased was in his 49th year, and much respected. He has left a widow and nine children. The family of which he was a member of have suffered severely from colliery accidents. The deceased himself lost a child some time ago—his wife a brother—and his brother an arm.

The eight persons hurt, but not dangerously, are:—John Ford, George Punshon, Joseph Davidson, Ralph (brother of Cuthbert) Young, John Parkinson, James Clish, Richard Dodds, and a boy (who was playing with two other lads, at some distance from the engine-house, and was struck by a stone from the building). The person least injured was the one nearest the boiler: he was in a great measure protected by the gearing of the engine.

The engine-house is in ruins—two sides of it having been thrown down by the explosion, and the roof crushed in by the boiler in its descent. A large piece of the boiler was blown a considerable distance into an adjoining field, and the stones of the engine-house were strewn about in all directions. The weight of the boiler was not less than eight or nine tons.

Hundreds of persons went to the spot in the course of Sunday, to witness the scene of the disaster.

An inquest was held upon the body of Michael Almond at Mr. Hetherington's, the Gateshead Arms, Gateshead Fell, on Monday last, at half-past nine in the forenoon, before Michael Hall, Esq., coroner. Mr. Ald. Wilson was foreman of the jury.

Cuthbert Walker, pitman, deposed, that he was about seven yards from the engine-house when the explosion took place. He had gone there at the request of deceased, to take a drink of ale, and was returning to the shaft, when he was struck on the shoulder by a stone. He turned round to see what was the matter, and saw Almond trying to make his escape from the engine-house. Deceased had got about nine yards from the building, when a portion of the boiler struck him in the side, and he fell to the ground; and the boiler (which was blown high into the air) immediately fell upon him, taking off one of his feet. Deceased was quite dead when lifted from the ground. Witness thought the cause was the blow received in the side from the piece of the boiler. He thought no person to blame for the bursting of the boiler, but he had no means of speaking positively. The engine had been standing for about a quarter of an hour, with the exception of drawing three tubs of water. Could not say whether the fire was kept in all that time. George Punshon (breaksman) had charge of the engine at the time. Could not say whether the safety valve was open or not. The men who were hurt were very wet, and so were the stones round about.

John Stephenson, engineer, deposed, that he was passing by the colliery at the time of the explosion; and as he came up the waggon-way, some little distance from the colliery, he heard a strange noise, as if all was not right with the engine. When opposite Mr. J. Pattison's, he heard a louder noise, and saw the boiler go up into the air, to the height, he thought, of 40 feet from the place where it was set. He saw Michael Almond (the deceased) running from the engine-house, when part of the boiler—a large piece—struck him to the ground. At that very instant, the boiler fell upon deceased's legs, one of which was severed from the body. Deceased, he thought, was not quite dead when he got up to him, for he moved his head twice, but he did not speak, and witness thought he died immediately after. He (witness) was the only person near deceased. He observed a dreadful cut in his side, and a severe wound upon his right breast. He could not tell the cause of the explosion, nor could he say who was to blame. The boiler was the property of "The Grand Allies"—[the name by which the colliery-owners—Lord Ravensworth and Partners—are most generally known]. Witness had seen the boiler since the explosion. He saw no water issue from the boiler. The noise he heard when coming up the waggon-way was as if the steam were confined and struggling to escape.

James King, pitman, sworn: Thought the time of the explosion was about half-past four on Saturday last. Was about 200 yards from the colliery when the explosion took place. Heard a great noise, and saw bricks and tiles flying about. When he got to the spot, saw Almond lying on the ground; but he did not stop to look at him, as he thought him dead, and heard others calling for assistance.

Robert Punshon, breaksman, brother to George Punshon (one of the sufferers), was next called:—Had charge of the engine at Derwent Crook Colliery from three or four in the morning of Saturday last till one in the same day. During the time he worked it, saw nothing the matter with the boiler, and he thought it quite right in every respect when he left—at which time it was well supplied with water. Did not return to the colliery till after the explosion, when he saw the boiler out of its seat, and Almond lying by it, but he (witness) was not near enough to observe what wounds deceased had received.—[In answer to a question from the Coroner as to the state of the boiler prior to the explosion, witness replied]:—The boiler was leaky, and the necessarily constant pumping in of water, he thought, had accumulated a quantity of dirt and other matter, and so caused an unusual quantity of gas to rise—and had thus probably occasioned the explosion. The boiler was a bad one—had never been a first-rate one—and could not be made good by repairs. Had never heard that the boiler was red-hot at the time of the explosion.

One of the jurors (Mr. Patterson) here asked the witness, if the person who, on Saturday afternoon, succeeded him in charge of the engine, was competent to the task:—he had heard not.

Witness replied:—Perfectly so: it was witness's brother (George Punshon). There was a young man whom his brother was instructing, but the engine was never left entirely in his charge.

Mr. Patterson remarked, that on Sunday afternoon he had inspected the "feeding hole," and he observed it was nearly one-half filled up by the deposition from the water [which in this neighbourhood is much impregnated with iron] with which the boiler was supplied; and said he thought such filling-up (which he had also noticed inside the boiler) must have been owing to negligence on the part of some one or other.

In answer to questions from another of the jury, witness replied, that there had been some talk of a new engine in consequence of the bad condition of the one which had exploded, and that the usual time for repairing the boiler was about Christmas.

A juror: Then it was intended to work this engine, bad as the boiler was, till Christmas, unless some accident happened in the mean time?

Witness: Yes; because it was not convenient just now to put up a new one, and the works would have been stopped if they had not gone on with this.

At the conclusion of this witness's examination, the Coroner, addressing the jury, said he thought it would be advisable to adjourn the inquest for a few days, in order to give time for the recovery of some of the sufferers, whose evidence was necessary before the inquest was closed. To this the jury assented, and the inquest was adjourned till Wednesday, the 9th of June.

Word having been brought during the early part of this day's inquest, that another of the sufferers, Cuthbert Young, a single man, had died on Sunday evening, the Coroner and jury proceeded to view the body—in order both that the Coroner might give permisson for burial, and that, at the adjourned inquest, they might proceed with the inquiry as to the cause of the death of both the unfortunate men at the same time.

Judging from the expression of Michael Almond's face, he must have suffered little or nothing—death must have been momentary: his features were as composed as if he were asleep. He was much respected by all who knew him, who say that if he had a fault, it was that he was scarcely strict enough. His

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cottage was clean and neat. The other poor creature was dreadfully scalded from head to foot; and his face was so shockingly distorted that we dare not attempt to describe its appearance.

William Morpeth was still alive when last we made inquiries after the sufferers from this explosion at Derwent Crook Colliery, but was not expected to recover. We also learn that John Ford and George Punshon are now considered to be in great danger.

[The investigation being still pending, we refrain from comment. We may have some remarks to offer next week.—Ed. G.O.]

EXPLOSION AT DERWENT-CROOK COLLIERY.

The adjourned inquest on Michael Almond was held at the Gateshead Arms inn, Gateshead Fell, on Wednesday evening, June 9, before Michael Hall, Esq., Coroner for Chester Ward.

Three witnesses were examined, viz., James Clish, Ralph Young, and George Punshon the engineman, (the last-named as he lay in bed at home.) Their evidence afforded so little that was not reported in our paper of the 5th inst., that we need not give it in full. One or two facts were admitted by all:—That the boiler at the Brecken Beds Pit was leaky, and, when working, required to be constantly receiving a supply of water; that the engine had been standing from a quarter to half-an-hour before the explosion of the 29th ult.; and that the boiler was not supplied with water during that time.

Mr. J. C. Douglas, of Newcastle, was present at the inquest; and having directed his attention for some time to the subject of boiler-explosions, he was examined by the Coroner. We have not space, however, to give his views in full; nor is it necessary, Mr. Douglas having favoured the *Observer* with two or three communications on the subject, on former occasions. It will be recollected that he ascribes what are called "boiler explosions" to the generation of gas, and its ignition by electricity. Because boilers, he says, are employed for the production of steam, explosions are ascribed to the steam, as a matter of course. But boilers are equally capable of generating gas, and do generate it under certain circumstances. When the pressure of the steam is removed from the surface of the water, the water rises to the roof of the boiler, leaving the rarified steam to expand on the heated metal below. Gas is generated. The electric spark passes from the body positively electrified (the steam) to the body negatively electrified (the metal)—and then comes the explosion. The remedy (said Mr. Douglas) was simple. Tubes passing through the top of the boiler nearly to the bottom, would allow the steam to escape into the air, and down would fall the water from the roof. The principle admitted of a homely illustration. Every one had seen, when a pan of milk was placed upon a fire, that the milk rose up, and threatened to flow over the sides of the vessel. But on stirring it with a spoon, the steam at the bottom found a vent by the tubes temporarily created in the operation, and the milk subsided. That it was not steam alone that escaped in boiler-explosions, was evident to all who had paid any attention to those calamities. The sufferers were frequently found to be, not only scalded, but also scorched. He had examined the exploded boiler at Derwent-Crook colliery, and found it rent at the strongest parts. It presented no peculiarities of appearance—it was not weaker than other boilers:—and, indeed, the strength of a boiler was no security—the stronger the boiler, the more dreadful the explosion.

Mr. Patterson, of the Fell, declared Mr. Douglas's theory to be as unwarrantable as it was novel. The boiler was in a defective state, and it was from the first of a vicious construction. Its shape was ill-judged, presenting little resistance to pressure. In the present day, no boilers of this form were constructed. He ascribed the explosion to the agency of steam—to the defective condition of the boiler—and to mismanagement.

Messrs. Patterson and Douglas entered into a discussion, but we must pass on to the verdict, which was, in effect, "Accidental death." The Foreman of the Jury, Mr. Alderman Wilson, said, they were unanimously of opinion that the immediate cause of Michael Almond's death was the blow from the boiler, but the cause of the explosion they could not discover from the evidence. They wished to recommend, however, the necessity of frequent and careful repairs of steam-boilers, and the employment of competent and experienced engineers:—and they imposed a deodand of of 2s. 6d. on the boiler.

A second inquest was held, viz., on Cuthbert Young, who was scalded to death.—Verdict accordingly.

A third death occurred on Sunday last, when John Ford expired of his injuries, leaving four orphan children.

[Mr. Josiah Parkes, C.E., had a professional gentleman present at the inquest, to furnish him with the facts of the explosion, that he may avail himself of them for his forthcoming work on the subject. The gentleman stated that he had investigated for Mr. Parkes no less than 33 cases of explosion.]

Central Exchange Newsroom, Newcastle.—Notice has been given, that at the annual meeting of the subscribers on the 18th inst., the following addition will be proposed to rule third:—"Excepting on Sundays throughout the year—upon which days the exchange and newsroom shall be closed." When will the "saints" rest from their labours? We are sure we need not add, that we hope every subscriber will attend on the 18th, and do his utmost to defeat this intolerant proposal.

"The Representation of Gateshead" formed the subject of a communication which we last week received from the Chartists of this borough, and which we inserted in our paper of last week. In that communication it was stated that the Charter Association had resolved to hold "a full meeting, and that the public be requested to attend, on Tuesday evening, June 8, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of taking into consideration the course to be pursued at the next general election." This meeting, which was held in Mr. Young's school-room, Oakwellgate, Mr. P. Murray was called to the chair. Mr. Cross moved, that a public meeting be held in Oakwellgate on Wednesday next, at 7½ P.M. Mr. Henderson seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Mr. Cross then moved the appointment of a deputation to wait upon Mr. John Mason, requesting him to become a candidate for the representation of Gateshead, in the event of a dissolution of Parliament. This motion, after being seconded by Mr. Scurfield, was adopted; and Mr. Cross proposed that the Reformers of Friars-Goose and the vicinity be requested to attend the meeting of next Wednesday. The proposal was agreed to. Mr. William Cook, Mr. Mason, Mr. C. Cross, &c., are expected to address the meeting. [The foregoing is the statement which we have received from our reporter on this occasion. We have heard, from another quarter, that the number present was *eight*. What would our Chartist friends have said, if eight Whigs had taken upon them to invite a candidate for the representation of the borough?—Ed. G. O.] ☞ Since the preceding paragraph was put in type, we have received Mr. Hutt's excellent address to the electors of Gateshead, to which we request their serious attention. Those of them who are favourable to his return will meet on Monday next, at the Grey Horse.

The special general meeting of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, for the purpose of electing a Representative in London in place of Mr. Gillespy, jun., resigned, and also a Chairman, should Mr. Smith's resignation be accepted, took place on Wednesday last, in the hall of the Trinity House—the Master (Wm. Pearson, Esq.,) in the chair. The meeting was highly respectable, and was unanimous, but not much more numerous than on the occasion at which the petition against the Corn Laws was adopted—a sufficient answer to our old friend, Mr. W. Richmond, who said the shipowners only required a "special summons" to flock in multitudes to his standard, and put all Radical free-traders to the rout. Sir James Duke, M.P., was appointed Representative of the Society, and George Straker, Esq., Chairman; the former being proposed in a highly-complimentary (but, at the same time, justly-merited) manner, by Mr. John Jobling; and the latter by Mr. John Rayne, jun. The vote accepting Mr. Smith's resignation contained an expression of the Society's regret at the circumstance—an expression which was designated by Mr. W. Richmond as an act of "mockery," but for which unseemingly interruption of the harmony of the meeting, Mr. R. was called to order by the Chairman, and rebuked by Mr. A. Nichol. We cordially congratulate the Society on the elections that have been made—affording, as they do, unequivocal evidence of the prevalence of Commercial Reform principles amongst the shipowners of one of the most important seaports of the kingdom.—June 12.

The Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, on Thursday last, adopted a memorial to the Postmaster-General for a morning mail by way of York, in addition to the present mid-day mail—and also for additional facilities in the Newcastle post

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office, that merchants and others may receive their letters earlier.—JUNE 12.

Thomas Swinburne, Esq., has made a donation of £2 to the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms.

At Brecken Beds, near Gateshead Fell, on Sunday, from the injuries received by the explosion of the boiler at Derwent Crook colliery, Mr. John Ford, blacksmith, aged 49. Few men of his class have died more deeply regretted by his friends and brother florists than John Ford. He was an intelligent, kindhearted man; and his experience and taste in producing the finest blooms of the various prize flowers, placed him amongst the most successful of our local florists. His cottage garden presented a perfect pattern of neatness and productiveness.

REPRESENTATION OF GATESHEAD.

ON Monday evening, June 14, a meeting of electors friendly to the election of Mr. Hutt was held in the long-room of the Grey Horse inn, and was well and influentially attended. About fifty of the leading electors were present.

Mr. Ald. WILSON was called to the chair; and Mr. SWINBURNE, the solicitor, then stated, that he had felt it to be his duty, on the eve of a dissolution of Parliament, to convene a meeting of the electors favourable to the return of Mr. Hutt—and this he had done, both by advertisement and handbill. Mr. Swinburne proceeded to read, first the notice of meeting, and next the address of Mr. Hutt, which appeared in the *Observer* of Saturday last.

This address was received with approbation—its principles being in accordance with those of the electors, and the manly simplicity and clearness with which they are stated being highly satisfactory. Mr. Hutt's views, as stated in the address, may be summed up as follows:—Shorter Parliaments, Extension of the Suffrage, and Vote by Ballot—Liberty of Conscience, (which calls for the abolition of Church Rates, and of the interference of Ecclesiastical Courts with the Dissenter)—Education, National and Universal—and Commercial Reform.

Mr. Ald. LOSH submitted a resolution to the meeting, expressing approval of the address, and declaring Mr. Hutt to be a suitable candidate for the representation of the borough. Mr. Losh stated, that he had long enjoyed the happiness of Mr. Hutt's acquaintance. Their intimacy commenced at Cambridge, fifteen or sixteen years ago; and at that time, when the profession of views similar to those of the address now under consideration, was certainly not the best passport to worldly honours and advantages, but quite the contrary, Mr. Hutt was then as now a decidedly liberal politician. (Applause.) A steady and consistent adherence to his principles, through evil and through good report, was no slight recommendation in a public man; and highly approving of the views of Mr. Hutt, and of his unwavering profession of those views through a tolerably long course of years, he had much pleasure in moving the resolution which he had already read to the meeting.

Mr. WILLIAM WALKER seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. L. HARLE then moved, that the electors present be formed into an open committee, to promote the election of Mr. Hutt.

Mr. WILLIAM WYLAM seconded the motion, cordially concurring in the political and commercial views of Mr. Hutt. (Applause.)

The motion having been unanimously passed, it was intimated that any elector not present, who might be ready to give his services on the committee, would be warmly welcomed by the gentlemen already entered on Mr. Swinburne's books.

Mr. SWINBURNE requested the opinion of the meeting on the question of a canvass, and the general opinion was, that Mr. Hutt should wait personally on every elector in the borough, that the fullest opportunity might be given to the constituency of learning his political sentiments. Mr. Swinburne then stated, that Mr. Hutt only required to know the wishes of the electors, and they would at once be acted upon.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman, on the motion of Mr. JOSHUA WATSON, and the meeting separated.

On Wednesday evening, a meeting was held in Oakwellgate, (as announced in the *Observer* of Saturday,) to promote the election of a Chartist or a Tory candidate. Mr. Sinclair was called upon to preside, and resolutions were unanimously passed as follows:—

Moved by Mr. C. Cross,
Seconded by Mr. Henderson,

That the non-electors of the borough of Gateshead pledge themselves to exercise their legitimate influence in promoting the election of a Member whose principles best meet their approbation.

Moved by Mr. William Cook,
Seconded by Mr. Scurfield,

That this meeting recommend the necessity of supporting a candidate pledged to advocate the principles set forth in the People's Charter—to vote for the restoration of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and the liberation of all political prisoners; and in the event of not being able to meet with a candidate who is able successfully to oppose the Ministerial candidate, that we throw our influence into the scale of the Tory party, provided they bring forward a candidate opposed to the New Poor Law Bill.

Moved by Mr. Kirker,
Seconded by Mr. P. Murray,

That it is the opinion of this meeting, that Mr. John Mason is a fit and proper person to represent this borough in the ensuing Parliament.

[Mr. Mason spoke at considerable length in explanation of his principles, and considered himself as fit a person as Mr. Hutt to represent the borough.]

Moved by Mr. Morton,
Seconded by Mr. Morgan,

That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the Tory party ought to bring forward R. S. Surtees, Esq., as a candidate for the representation of this borough in Parliament.

Moved by Mr. Cross,
Seconded by Mr. Joseph Henderson,

That this meeting cannot find epithets sufficiently strong to deprecate the cowardly and brutal conduct of the Whig Ministerial clique, in hiring bludgeon-men to force their unreasonable and treacherous arguments at the recent meeting in Manchester.

A collection was made at the close of the meeting towards defraying the expenses to be incurred in printing an address to the inhabitants of Gateshead.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman "for his manly conduct in the chair," and the meeting dissolved.

[The number present was about 200.—We regret, for the sake of the Chartists themselves, that they should have placed their party in Gateshead in so suspicious a posture. The motives of the movers in this matter are transparent—so clear, indeed, that the dullest minds can have no difficulty in perceiving them. There is the slightest possible manifestation made of the once-boasted devotion of the Chartists to the Charter and nothing but the Charter—and the strongest possible determination evinced to assist the Tory party. We shall see, in a short time, the fate of this honest manœuvre. Meanwhile, we give below an extract from the Tory *Times*, and also one from the *Hull Advertiser*. The former will amuse the good people of Gateshead exceedingly.—ED. G.O.]

[FROM THE LONDON TIMES.]

Mr. Hutt acted by no means wisely in vacating the representation of Hull, (notwithstanding his prospects of being elected for that town were so very lamentable,) before making quite sure of being returned for Gateshead. It is very probable, from the present aspect of affairs, that the hon. gentleman will not have the honour of being a Member in the new Parliament. The Chartists at Gateshead form a very influential portion of the constituency, and they have taken such deep offence at the refusal of Mr. Hutt to attend one of their meetings about a fortnight ago, that they have resolved not to support him at the ensuing election. There is, consequently, an excellent opening for some sound Conservative. Very strenuous exertions have been made by the "Liberals" of Gateshead to induce the Chartists to change their determination [!], but without success. Mr. Hutt's address is very long, and touches upon every imaginable topic of public importance. The hon. gentleman avows himself a firm adherent to the principles professed by the late Earl of Durham.

[FROM THE HULL ADVERTISER.]

The people of Hull have some reason to complain of the unreasonableness of the Gateshead Chartists, in urging Mr. Hutt to neglect their interests in London for the purpose of answering questions and delivering speeches among his future constituents farther north. We see by a correspondence in the *Gateshead Observer*, that Mr. Hutt did not think himself justified in "being off with the old love, before he was on with the new." He very properly stated that "so long as Parliament was sitting, it would be inconvenient to the constituency of Hull that he should be absent from London." It is *by an ele-*

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vated sense of duty that Mr. Hutt has won for himself the respect and attachment of the people of this town; and THE INHABITANTS OF GATESHEAD OUGHT TO ESTIMATE HIM ALL THE MORE HIGHLY BECAUSE OF HIS SCRUPULOUS DISCHARGE OF THAT DUTY, *at a time when he can have no impulse to move him save the earnest desire to acquit himself faithfully of his stewardship.* The Chartists of Gateshead ought to know that an unexceptionable certificate of *past service* is the best recommendation for *prospective trust.*

Sir James Duke, M.P., has accepted the office of Representative in London of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society in the following letter to the Hon. Secretary:

Boston, 13th June, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—I beg you will do me the favour to express to the members of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society my sense of the honour they have conferred upon me, in electing me their Representative in the Committee of the General Shipowners Society, and assure them of the pleasure I shall feel in using my best endeavours to protect their important interests.

I have the honour to be, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. H. Brockett, Esq. JAMES DUKE.

Sir James, we find, has had another compliment conferred upon him, in the shape of a Tory opposition against him for the representation of Boston. On this homage to his consistency and zeal as a Reformer we cordially congratulate the worthy Alderman. His success, at Boston, is certain.

Mr. Matthew Plummer, at a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, observed, very truly, that Newcastle was placed in a peculiarly unfortunate situation by the present post-office arrangements. The Council appointed a committee to memorialize the Postmaster General on the subject. Thus the Chamber of Commerce will be backed by the Council in its application for a remedy. Is Gateshead unprepared to assist Newcastle in this good work?

The anniversary meeting of the Newcastle Central Exchange News Room was held yesterday, in the Exchange, (Sir John Fife in the chair). The attendance was numerous—between 400 and 500 subscribers being present. The Intolerants (as we must call them) who so charitably attempt to interfere with their neighbours' liberty on the Sunday, were taught a lesson which we trust will be beneficial to them, Mr. W. C. Marshall's motion for the shutting up of the rooms on Sundays having been rejected by an overwhelming majority. On the meeting dividing, there appeared *for* the motion 26, and *against* it upwards of 450! The principal speakers in favour of the motion were Mr. Marshall, Rev. Mr. Sawyer, Rev. Mr. Campbell, and Mr. R. H. Haggie: on the side of their neighbours' liberty, Dr. De Mey, Mr. John Brandling, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Charles Rayne. After the decision, the minority wished to enter a protest on the minutes, but the meeting decided that it be rejected. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the balloting for committee took place. [The protest was as follows:—1. Because we deem it a direct violation of the fourth commandment. 2. Because we deem it an infringement on the Christian rights of the servants of the institution. 3. Because we regard it as perpetuating a temptation to members to neglect the ordinances and violate the requirements of religion]—JUNE 19.

The Chartists and other inhabitants of Sunderland, on Wednesday evening last, met in the long-room of the Golden Lion inn, (Mr. Jobling, linen-draper, in the chair,) to promote the election of candidates favourable to the Charter, the Repeal of the Corn Laws, and the Reform of our Tariff of Import Duties generally. Mr. Williams, we are told, made a temperate, yet energetic speech, and a committee was formed to carry out the views of the meeting. We have no expectation that the promoters of this meeting can effect any change in the representation of Sunderland; but we do hope that the Reformers of that borough will unite themselves against the ensuing election, and cast out the notorious Alderman, who purchased his seat in Parliament by fraudulent pretences.

Messrs. Brown & Son, of Grey-street, Newcastle, have now on exhibition, in their show-rooms, an object which must prove remarkably attractive in the race-week. It is a magnificent ivory knife or "paper-cutter," executed by our loyal and skilful neighbours for Queen Victoria.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society met on Wednesday night, at the Temperance Hotel, Royal Arcade, (the Rev. Joseph M'Alister in the chair,) when the rules were revised and amended, and a committee (with officers) appointed, including Churchmen, Catholics, and Dissenters. Letters, it was stated, had been written (by the Chairman of a previous meeting) to the candidates for the representation of Newcastle, Gateshead, South Northumberland, and North Durham, respectfully requesting to be informed of their sentiments on certain questions, the nature of which will appear from the answers returned by Messrs. Ord and Hinde, given below:—

FROM MR. ORD.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, communicating to me a resolution of the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society, and requesting to know my sentiments on the following questions:—

1. Legislative Union of Church and State.
2. Church Extension at the Expense of the Nation.
3. Stipendiary Workhouse Chaplains, paid out of the Poor Rate.
4. Compulsory Church Rates.
5. Ecclesiastical Courts.
6. Imprisonment of Mr. Baines, and the Propriety of his Liberation.

With every respect for the Society, and every desire to satisfy any portion of my constituents as to my opinions on all subjects, I feel that I cannot state my sentiments on some of these points without more explanation, both as to the meaning of the questions and of my own views, than I can at present obtain or afford.

But I have no hesitation in saying, that I am *not* prepared to consent to any taxation of the people for the purpose of what is called "Church Extension."

I have always been opposed to the principle of compulsory Church Rates, and I should be most happy to see such a source of discontent extinguished, and some substitute provided for the support of the fabric of the church, that would not press on the conscientious scruples of the Dissenters.

I think the Ecclesiastical Courts, as at present constituted, a great grievance, and I think they require extensive alteration.

I think the same of the law under which Mr. Baines is imprisoned; but so long as it is in the law, I think every one is bound to obey it; and I therefore think Mr. Baines acted under a mistaken sense of duty in resisting it. I should, however, be most happy to see him released, and means adopted to prevent a recurrence of such circumstances as have lately attended refusals to pay Church Rates.

On the whole, I think I may refer the Society to my conduct during a long Parliamentary life, to show that I have always been the zealous friend of the great principles of Religious Liberty, which I presume are those of the Society on whose behalf you addressed me; and I beg you to assure them of my unalterable attachment to those principles.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
Berkeley-square, June 14, 1841. W. ORD.

FROM MR. HODGSON HINDE.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 10th, I beg to give you an explanation of my opinions on the several subjects which you have submitted to me.

1. I consider the maintenance of the Church of England, as by law established, of essential importance to the spiritual welfare of the people.

2. I have refrained from voting on the subject of Church Extension, till I could ascertain how far the means which will be at the disposal of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners are likely to be adequate to this purpose, aided, as they ought to be, by the liberal contributions of members of the Church of England.

3. I consider it the duty of the Legislature to provide for the spiritual instruction of persons who are inmates of workhouses—allowing, at the same time, perfect freedom of intercourse between Dissenters so circumstanced, and ministers of their own persuasion.

4. I shall be glad to see such provision made for the maintenance of the fabrics of the churches as will obviate the necessity of a special rate for this purpose.

5. If Church Rates are to be continued in their present shape, I should wish to see them recoverable by summary process, without resorting to the Ecclesiastical Courts. This would render parties liable in their goods only, and not in their persons.

6. The liberation of Mr. Baines would be the natural effect of such a change in the law.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
London, June 12, 1841. JOHN HODGSON HINDE.

On Thursday, a letter was received from Mr. Hutt, with a copy of which we have been favoured by the Chairman of the meeting of June 10:—

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, requesting, on the part of the Religious Freedom Society of Newcastle and Gateshead, that I would state my opinion on several questions of great public interest mentioned therein. I comply most readily with the wishes expressed by your Society.

1. Legislative Union between Church and State.

There is not, perhaps, in the whole science of politics, a more perplexing question than whether it be or be not desirable for the State to provide for the religious instruction of the people.

I confess that I am unable to offer any solution of it in this abstract form.

In the United States, I see a people, certainly not deficient in religious teaching, who are entirely dependent for it on their voluntary institutions.

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In France, the opposite system has been, not unsuccessfully, resorted to: I mean, the payment by the State of the ministers of all religious persuasions.

It is, however, no doubt, of the particular union subsisting between the Church and State in this country, that you wish me to express my opinion.

I will give my views on that subject as plainly as the limits to which I must confine the expression of them will permit.

Looking to the nature of the Church revenues in this country, to the manner in which they are mixed up with private property, and to the public feeling with which, as a national institution, the Church is regarded, I have no hesitation in declaring, that I would reform, but that I would not destroy it.

I do not think that there is, either in the doctrines or the constitution of the Church, anything essentially bad. There are, no doubt, many corruptions—there are some things which may be justly denounced as intolerant and anti-scriptural—but I recognize nothing which judicious legislation might not remove.

Retaining the Established Church, therefore, from the circumstances under which I find it in this country, I would take care that it should be invested by law with no character of civil or spiritual superiority over other religious communities.

I entirely disapprove of the proposition to construct churches, for the exclusive use of the English Establishment, at the common cost of the whole people of Great Britain and Ireland. I look forward to the result of the general election with some anxiety even on this account—that Sir Robert Inglis expects to appeal, "*under happier auspices*," to the next House of Commons, for a large grant of public money to be devoted to this sectarian purpose.

I hold it to be highly improper to tax the whole community, in order to pamper the religion of a party; and for this reason I conceive that funds collected by a poor-rate ought not to be applied to the maintenance of ministers of the Church in workhouses.

I object to Church Rates for the same reason.

I should be glad to see the Ecclesiastical Courts abolished.

William Baines appears to me to be imprisoned under the authority of a bad law. I would promote the abolition of that law by every legal means in my power; but so long as it is unrepealed, I cannot, as an honest citizen, approve of violating it.

The circumstances under which an individual is justified in setting himself against the law, are, I hope, very few in number, and of rare occurrence. I do not regard this occasion as one. I think that the public welfare would suffer far less by the imprisonment of William Baines under the operation of a very bad law, than it would gain by a direct and open violation of it.

Let us get rid of the law!

I cannot suppose that your Society will concur with me in all the opinions I have here expressed, and I may be wrong where we differ. I can only say, that I have taken all the pains to be right that much study, and long reflection, and an anxious desire to know the truth, could add to the natural powers of my mind.

I have the honour to be,

Your very obedient, humble servant,

London, June 15, 1841. WILLIAM HUTT.

The town-council of Newcastle met on Wednesday, when a letter from the town-clerk (now in London) was read, stating his belief that the Town Improvement Bill would pass before the dissolution of Parliament.——One of Sir Thomas White's grants of £25 was voted to Mr. Robert Donkin.——Mr. Lightfoot was appointed master of St. Ann's school, by the casting vote of the Mayor, there being 18 votes for Mr. L. and 18 for Mr. Michel.——Mr. Francis Sinton was appointed to the office of keeper of the cattle-market.——Mr. Ald. Dunn presented a report on the subject of Messrs. Doubleday & Easterby's property. An amicable arrangement had been effected, under which £5,195 was to be given for the property, and the law-expenses were to be equally divided. Report confirmed.——Mr. Justice Nichol's absence, it was stated, still prevented any report being made on the subject of the suggested union between the Blind Asylums, but there was ground for believing that the desired object would be realized. Sir John Fife said, that the Victoria Asylum was paying its way—extending its utility—and flourishing.——A resolution was passed, that notices of motion may be given at the town-clerk's office seven days (or more) before a meeting of the Council.——A committee was appointed to prepare a memorial to the Postmaster General on the subject of the present post-office arrangements.——Other business having been transacted, the Council adjourned to the first Wednesday in August.—JUNE 19.

GATESHEAD ELECTION.

AT a Meeting of the Electors of the Borough of Gateshead, for Promoting the Return of WILLIAM HUTT, Esq., as their Representative in Parliament, convened by advertisement, and held at Freeman's Long Room, Gateshead, on Monday, June 14th, 1841, (THOMAS WILSON, Esq., in the chair,) the advertisement convening the Meeting, and Mr. Hutt's address, published in the *Gateshead Observer* of the 12th inst., having been read, *it was resolved*:—

On the motion of JAMES LOSH, Esq.,

Seconded by WILLIAM WALKER, Esq.,

That this meeting cordially approves of the address from Mr. Hutt, which has just been read, and considers that gentleman in every way qualified to represent the borough of Gateshead in Parliament.

On the motion of WM. LOCKEY HARLE, Esq.,

Seconded by WILLIAM WYLAM, Esq.,

That the electors present form themselves into an open committee, to take the necessary steps to secure Mr. Hutt's election.

THOMAS WILSON, Chairman.

It was resolved, also:—That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman, for his able conduct in the chair.

Committee Room, Gateshead, June 14, 1841.

FORMATION OF THE GATESHEAD MARKET.

TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

TO BE SOLD by Private Contract, either together or separately, several SITES, most eligibly situated for Shops or Dwelling Houses, on the north side of an intended New Street from the High-street to Oakwellgate, in Gateshead.

And, to be Let by Private Contract, the Arches under the Brandling Junction Railway, on the south side of the said new street, the whole intended to form a market.

Plans of the intended buildings, which have been approved by the Council of Gateshead, and conditions for the sale of the sites, and letting of the arches, may be seen on application at the Railway Office.—Gateshead, 17th June, 1841.

BIRTLEY FELL.

NOTICE.—A Meeting of the Freeholders of Birtley will be held on Monday, June 28th, 1841, at 12 o'clock at noon, at the house of Mr. P. Braban, Three Tuns Inn, Birtley Lane, on business relative to the Wayleaves, &c.

17th June, 1841. THOS. R. MADDISON.

GATESHEAD FELL PUBLIC ROOMS.

AT a COMMITEE MEETING, held at the Gateshead Arms, on the 17th inst., a further Call of Five Shillings per Share was made on the Shareholders, to be paid on the 1st of July, at a GENERAL MEETING, to be held on that day, at the same place, at 7 o'clock in the Evening.

Gateshead Fell, 18th June, 1841.

THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY'S BAZAAR.

IN the Second Week in September, a Bazaar will be held in the county of Durham, in aid of the Funds for Liquidating a Debt of £700, incurred in Building the CHURCH at SEAHAM HARBOUR. The Bazaar will be under the immediate Patronage of Lady Londonderry, who intends coming from London, accompanied by her daughters, the Ladies Frances and Alexandrina Vane, for the express purpose of furnishing and taking the management of Two Stalls; and as her Ladyship will bring with her a variety of Foreign Articles and Curiosities from the East, together with several exquisite Pieces of Needle-Work, contributed by Her Majesty, the Queen Adelaide, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia, to exhibit for Sale on the occasion, it is presumed that the Exhibition (from her Ladyship's excellent taste in such matters) will be found one of the most attractive that has yet appeared in the North of England. Lady Dungannon and Lady Rendlesham will hold Stalls in the Marchioness of Londonderry's Bazaar.

Gateshead, according to the new census, contains upwards of 19,000 inhabitants. The exact number we cannot state at present.

The population of Darlington, at the census of 1821, was 5,750; in 1831, 8,574; and in 1841, 11,044; so that it has nearly doubled in 20 years.

A worthy Gatesider, willing to pay his wife a compliment, entered her in his enumeration-paper as "a fendy huzzy!"

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POPULATION TABLE.

Townships.	Houses.			Inhabitants.			Comparison.		
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Buildings.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Census 1831.	Increase.	Decrease.
Billingham	163	22		407	375	782	401	381	
Brierton	4			16	11	27	22	5	
Coopen Bewley	36		1	107	89	196	137	59	
Claxton	9			32	20	52	32	20	
Dalton Percy	16	1		40	38	78	79		1
Elwick	50	4		110	128	238	232	6	
Elwick Hall	29	1		87	78	165	169		4
Greatham	146	7	3	327	308	635	519	116	
Hartlepool	834	25	53	2631	2570	5201	1330	3871	
Hart	48			156	122	278	243	35	
Newton Bewley	20			39	48	87	92		5
Stranton	274	12	6	771	720	1491	381	1110	
Seaton Carew	117	16	1	249	339	588	333	255	
Throston	13			59	42	101	79	31	
Thorp Bulmer	3			9	12	21	28		7
Wolviston	132	9		287	301	588	582	6	
Total,	1894	97	64	5327	5201	10528	4650	5895	17

Dissolution of Parliament.

The proceedings in the Houses of Lords and Commons, in the last few days, have been formal and uninteresting—neither have there been any electioneering proceedings in the country, in the present week, that call for particular notice. On Tuesday, her Majesty prorogued Parliament in person.

At half-past one o'clock the royal procession left Buckingham Palace in the usual state, the Queen being accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Albert and the different officers of the household. Her Majesty and the Prince were much cheered as they passed along, and on their arrival at the House of Lords a royal salute of 21 guns was fired.

On her entrance, her Majesty was received by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Melbourne, and the other great officers of State.

Having robed, the Queen entered the House of Lords, the body of which, as well as the strangers' gallery, was chiefly occupied by ladies in full dress. The Queen then commanded their lordships to be seated, and the Usher of the Black Rod was dispatched to the House of Commons to command their attendance at the bar.

Her Majesty wore a magnificent robe of white satin richly embroidered with gold, and trimmed with gold lace, over which she wore the mantle of State. A dazzling tiara, stomacher, necklace, and ear-rings of brilliants completed the Royal *toilette*. Prince Albert wore a field marshal's uniform, with the ribbon and decorations of the garter. Both her Majesty and his Royal Highness appeared in excellent health.

The Commons, with the Speaker at their head, having appeared at the bar, the right hon. gentleman proceeded to address her Majesty on the results of the session, and concluded by praying her Majesty's assent to the appropriation bill.

The ceremony of giving the royal assent to the appropriation and other bills was then gone through, and her Majesty proceeded to read, in a clear and firm voice, the following speech from the Throne:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—On a full consideration of the present state of public affairs, I have come to the determination of proroguing Parliament with a view to its immediate dissolution.

"The paramount importance of the trade and industry of the country, and my anxiety that the exigencies of the public service should be provided for in the manner least burthensome to the community, have induced me to resort to the means which the Constitution has entrusted to me, of ascertaining the sense of my people upon matters which so deeply concern their welfare.

"I entertain the hope that the progress of public business may be facilitated, and that divisions injurious to the course of steady policy and useful legislation may be removed, by the authority of a new Parliament, which I shall direct to be summoned without delay.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—I thank you for the readiness with which you have voted the sums necessary for the civil and military establishments

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—In the exercise of my prerogative, I can have no other object than that of securing the rights and promoting the interests of my subjects; and I rely on the co-operation of my Parliament, and the loyal zeal of my People, for support in the adoption of such measures as are necessary to maintain that high station among the nations of the world, which it has pleased Divine Providence to assign to this country."

Her Majesty read the speech with considerable emphasis, particularly the paragraph beginning "In the exercise of my prerogative."

As soon as her Majesty had concluded, the Lord Chancellor said:—It is her Majesty's royal will and pleasure that this parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 29th of June instant, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued till Tuesday, the 29th of June.

Her Majesty quitted the house in the same state and order as she had entered. She was loudly and warmly cheered as she re-entered her carriage, and in the Park the cheers were deafening.

On Wednesday, Parliament was dissolved in the usual form, and new writs were issued.—June 26.

ROTHBURY UNION.

George Cornwall Lewis, Esq., one of the Poor Law Commissioners, and G. Coode, Esq., the Assistant Secretary, held a Court of Inquiry on the 18th and 19th instant, into certain charges preferred by the Rev. Charles George Vernon Harcourt, Rector of Rothbury, and a series of counter-charges preferred by Mr. Wm. Forster, Vice Chairman, against Mr. Harcourt, for violent and improper conduct in the Board-Room at various Meetings of the Guardians.

The Court was held in the school-room at Rothbury. Messrs. Manisty and Stephenson, solicitors, London, appeared on behalf of the Rev. Mr. Harcourt; Mr. Busby, of Alnwick, for the Guardians; and Mr. Charlton, of Morpeth, for the Clerk of the Union.

Mr. Woodman, Clerk of the Union, read the authority of Lord Normanby, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for holding the inquiry.

Mr. Commissioner Lewis stated that he wished to limit the inquiry to the investigation of matters with which the Commissioners could interfere beneficially, and requested the professional gentlemen to confine their observations accordingly.

Mr. Manisty made a lengthened statement of the transactions of the Union from its origin, for the purpose of making himself understood; and on this account he was compelled to notice many circumstances, it being impossible for him to bring all the occurrences into a proper shape without it. He alleged that the Assistant Commissioner had acted with partiality, and smothered inquiry; that the Relieving Officer was not a competent or an honest man; and that the Clerk knew this, and screened and aided the dishonesty.

Mr. Charlton objected to indiscriminate charges, never heard of till the speech of Mr. Manisty.

Mr. Busby observed, that Mr. Harcourt, in his letter of the 5th of June, stated, that he had abandoned all matters connected with the late unfortunate Mr. Boag—whereas Mr. Manisty had made him the chief object of his remarks, as it would appear for the purpose of blackening the character of a man who is now in his grave.

Mr. Commissioner Lewis, in the charge for illegally supplying goods to the Union, objected to examination on oath respecting a transaction which might afterwards be made the subject of a criminal prosecution.

Mr. Busby claimed the protection of some of his clients from being prejudiced by an *ex-parte* inquiry on oath, and trusted that the Court would not furnish the Rector of Rothbury with the means of bringing a *qui tam* action as a common informer.

Mr. Manisty said, that Mr. Harcourt would not make use of it; but Mr. H. would request the Commissioners to prosecute.

Mr. Coode: It would be evidence, obtained on oath, that might criminate others, and the prosecution was open to all the world.

Mr. Lewis and Mr. Coode asked Mr. Manisty how he made out his charge of unnecessarily receiving large sums of money,

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the gist of the charge being collusive dealing between the late Relieving Officer and the Clerk.

Mr. Charlton objected that there was no statement in Mr. Harcourt's letter of collusive dealing.

Mr. Busby wished to know if the Guardians were implicated in the charge, as Mr. Forster, the Vice Chairman, Mr. Boag's surety, was referred to by Mr. Harcourt's letter—not grammatically or very intelligibly, as, in correct construction, the words referred, though absurdly, to the Assistant Commissioner.

Mr. Coode observed, that the Vice Chairman could have no collusive intentions to be a party to his own injury. It was his interest to protect himself, and prevent the voting of large sums of money for which he might afterwards become liable.

Mr. Busby wished distinctly to know from Mr. Manisty, if the charge, however absurd, was to be abandoned, that it might not be shuffled out of afterwards.

Mr. Manisty said, that he intended to prove the charge generally, and entered into a very elaborate examination of the ledger-accounts, compared with the minute-books of the Board and those of the Treasurer and Relieving Officer. After a minute statement of several entries, Mr. M. admitted that they did not lead to the consequence he expected—and in some others, that he had confused the cheques. Mr. M. then went through several other items without producing any result.

Mr. Coode said, that it did not appear, from any of the entries, that Boag could mislead. His balances were considerably diminishing: Mr. Manisty made out nothing.

Mr. Manisty expected that they would make out something altogether in the end.

Mr. Coode: A dozen nothings still amount to nothing.

Mr. Busby said, Mr. Manisty was proceeding on a false principle: he forgot that the payments were prospective. It appeared that the cheques given to the Relieving Officer were frequently not presented for payment when granted; sometimes the amount was taken by two or three instalments; and of the last cheque for £260, granted by the Board to the late Relieving Officer, £70 and £90 had been drawn as his payments required., and a balance of £100 remained in the Treasurer's hands at the period of Mr. Boag's untimely death.

Mr. Manisty laid great stress on an entry in the ledger, dated October, being placed subsequent to one dated in December.

Mr. Coode: It is merely entered on the wrong line by the person keeping the books, who had entered in the ledger other books, before he had looked at Mr. Boag's book.

Mr. Charlton observed, that if the Clerk had erased the entry, it would have been a grave charge—a good deal would have been made of it.

In November, 1839, Boag being debited with £20 more than he had received, Mr. Coode said, that Mr. Boag was here surcharged to his own injury: the entry was only made to correct the ledger, and the ledger merely corrected the balance.

Commissioner Lewis: So far there is nothing against Boag. The payments are correct, but the entries in the ledger are incorrect. The two errors are to correct each other, and perfectly consistent.

Mr. Manisty laid great stress on the entry of a sum in pencil—and that unnecessarily large sums were granted to Boag.

Mr. Coode said, that the entry appeared to have been put in pencil till the exact sum was ascertained. The Guardians made an advance to the Relieving Officer, which was not accounted for till the next quarter.

Mr. Busby said, that Mr. Manisty was like Don Quixote, fond of fighting with windmills. He (Mr. M.) made an inference—assumed it as a fact—and argued upon it as if it were true. The Guardians granted no more money than the public exigencies required.

Mr. Charlton said, that the quarterly accounts were regularly audited by Mr. William Cowens, the Auditor; and if any irregularities existed, they were chargeable to him.

Mr. Manisty paused for a short time, and then said, emphatically, "This book has been altered since yesterday: I'll take my oath of that. The sum was then in pencil, and it has since been written with ink. I examined it particularly. '£250' has been entered since last night. This is another charge against the Clerk."

Mr. Stephenson, the partner of Mr. M., volunteered to make oath to the same effect.

Mr. Busby observed, that such an extraordinary proceeding as the present might have some effect in the outer room of the Judges' Chambers in London, where it was sometimes resorted to, but he hoped it would be of no avail here. The figures in pencil were distinctly visible, and the same as those in ink.

Mr. James Watson, of Belford, deposed, that he had assisted the late Mr. Boag in keeping the books at the commencement of the Union. He was well acquainted with Boag's handwriting, and the figures and words in dispute were all Boag's writing.

Mr. John Hopper, Relieving Officer of the Rothbury Union, had carefully examined Boag's book a few weeks ago, and made extracts from it, turning it carefully over, leaf by leaf, to see how much money Boag had received from the Treasurer, and how much it required to make the payments. It was regularly carried forward, from beginning to end of the quarter.

The witness's memorandum-book was compared by the Commissioner with Boag's, and found to agree.

Commissioner Lewis: The colour of the ink puts an end to any suspicion.

Mr. Manisty: I do not understand the books. It is quite surprising to me how I could have been so far mistaken. My senses must have deceived and misled me, as I cannot dispute the direct and respectable testimony that has been given against me. I withdraw any insinuation against the Clerk. I do not think there has been any alteration in the book, and I did not charge the Clerk with altering the book. I merely said, the book had been altered, which I admit is not the case.

Mr. Manisty entered fully into the charge of irregularity in the election of Guardians, by which several townships were disfranchised.

Mr. Arkle, the Overseer of Elsdon and Woodside, deposed, that he had seen no notices given, and wrote to the Commissioners to that effect. On cross-examination, he admitted that he was too late in making his returns, and ante-dated his letter to the Clerk, to appear to be in time. [The letter was shown, with a cancelled postage-stamp, marked "*Used before.*"]

Mr. Thornton, the sole ratepayer and Overseer of three townships, had the notices posted on his own door, and left at his house—but he admitted that he had not read them.

Mr. Commissioner Lewis: This charge has altogether failed in proof, as it has not been shown that the notices were not affixed in public places in the township. It is difficult to give regulations in complicated matters, especially when parties will not read the papers sent to them.

Mr. Charlton produced clear proof that Mr. Boag had duly posted all the notices in the Union.

Mr. Manisty said, he abandoned the charge, both against the Clerk and the Relieving Officer, as it appeared that they had done everything that could be done in the matter.

The charge of illegally supplying goods was abandoned, after a short investigation. The whole was of the most trifling nature and inconsiderable amount, being two accounts of £4 14s. and £4 7s., both supplied without profit, and not within the meaning of the statute. Another account amounted to £6 19s., for a supply of small beer to the workhouse during two years and a half, and unknown to the Guardian implicated, who resides at a distance. There was no other brewery in the district, and the article could not otherwise be obtained without an expense for carriage far beyond its value.

Mr. Busby observed, that the charges of Mr. Manisty were strictly charges against the Auditor.

Mr. Commissioner Lewis admitted that many of Mr. Manisty's charges were charges against the Auditor.

Mr. Manisty said, "To save time, I wish to have five minutes' conference with Mr. Harcourt, to shorten proceedings." On his return, Mr. M. said:—"Mr. Harcourt has no wish to press the inquiry further. It has been shown that great irregularities did exist. Many charges have not been proved. The irregularities charged against Mr. Woodman do not exist: he only did what the Guardians ordered, and acted with the greatest possible regularity. We reserve to ourselves to resort to other tribunals, if necessary. The Union has been a system of perfect irregularity from its commencement in 1836; and since Mr. Harcourt called for inquiry, much of the information that he received he has found to be erroneous, and

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Mr. Harcourt has no wish to press the inquiry further. All charges that have been made are now withdrawn; and as this inquiry will lay the foundation for a better state of things, I will withdraw all the charges that we have made."

Mr. Charlton said he was ready to meet all the charges, face to face, and rebut every one of them. He denied that there were any irregularities—he wanted no favour from Mr. Harcourt.

Mr. Manisty said, he entirely acquitted Mr. Woodman of every charge and imputation.

Mr. Busby called on Mr. M. to make the same retractation with respect to the Guardians and the late Mr. Boag, who was broken down in his mind by the persecutions he experienced from Mr. Harcourt.

Mr. Manisty repeated, that he abandoned all charges against these parties.

Mr. Busby said, he was ready to go into the charges of Mr. Forster against the Rector, of conduct highly disgraceful to him as a man.

Mr Commissioner Lewis said that this was unnecessary—that he had seen sufficient to enable him to form an opinion of the business—but he had come to investigate, not to express any opinion. The Commissioners would communicate with the Guardians. Mr. Manisty had acted wisely in abandoning the inquiry, and there was no use of further inquiry, after all the charges had been withdrawn.

Messrs. John and Thomas Chrisp, Thomas Anderson, John Crea, John Pattison, Charles Manisty, Thomas Forster, John Aynsley, George Storey, James Brown, S. Donkin, and W. Colville, bore testimony to the character of the late Mr. Henry Boag, the Relieving Officer, as a trustworthy, good-hearted, honest, and upright man, whom they could confidently trust with all they possessed, and they had never heard his integrity called in question, excepting by Mr. Harcourt. Mr. Boag was well respected as a Relieving Officer, and very attentive to the poor, often giving them money out of his own pocket. A great number of other gentlemen, from various parts of the country, were in attendance to bear their testimony to the character of the late Mr. Boag, whose melancholy fate has excited great sympathy; but the Commissioner considered further evidence on that point superfluous.

The inquiry lasted nearly two days, and excited great public interest.

Mr. Hutt, M.P., and the Sound Dues.—The Committee of the General Shipowners' Society, London, in their Report, read at the Annual Meeting of the 18th inst., pay the following valuable tribute to the merits of Mr. Hutt:—

During the present Session the subject of the Sound Dues has been brought under the notice of the Legislature by the Hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Hutt), and your Committee have also been in communication with Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in reference thereto; and they have now the pleasure to state, that they have reason to believe that a very satisfactory treaty has been signed by the Danish Ambassador, which only waits the ratification of the Court of Denmark before the new tariff agreed to shall come into operation. Your Committee cannot dismiss this subject without thus publicly tendering to the Hon. Member for Hull their thanks for the important services rendered by him to the shipping interest of the empire on this and on many other occasions.

In the House of Commons, June 18, Mr. Hutt asked Mr. Labouchere whether any steps had been taken on the subject of the Sound Dues, to which he had called the attention of Ministers on a former occasion. Mr. Labouchere said, he trusted that the answer which he was able to give to the question of the Hon. Member would be found satisfactory. A protocol had been signed by his noble friend the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the effect of which would be that a speedy adjustment of the matter would take place, such as he trusted would prove satisfactory to all parties interested therein. The reduction of the duties would come into operation at once (Hear, hear.)

REPRESENTATION OF GATESHEAD.

Mr. Hutt met his committee on Thursday night, June 24, in the long room of the Grey Horse inn, Gateshead. There was an excellent attendance of the members, and we also observed a few of our Chartist neighbours in the room.

Mr. Ald. Wilson was called to the chair, and introduced Mr. Hutt to the meeting.

Mr. Hutt, who was received with much cordiality, proceeded to address his committee, and the other gentlemen present; but, economizing our space for the sake of the public meeting of the following night, we give a mere outline of his speech. The requisition (he observed) which he had received from the electors two years ago, and the prompt formation, a few days ago, of a large and respectable committee, to carry that requisition into effect, had given him great satisfaction. Residing in their immediate neighbourhood, and his whole conduct being fully known to them, he would not have received from them those marks of approbation and confidence, had he been unfaithful to his trust as a Member of the House of Commons. His own breast told *him* that he had not been unfaithful, but their approbation testified to the whole *country* that the electors of Gateshead were satisfied with the part which he had played in the Commons' House of Parliament. (Applause.) Their approval of his conduct was an encouragement to perseverance in the path of duty; and it was gratifying to him to have the prospect of forming a political connection with the borough of Gateshead, at a time when, if ever there was one, a remarkable crisis had ensued in the affairs of the nation. The Ministers of the Crown had proposed for the decision of the country, whether we were any longer to be shackled with prohibitions and monopolies, or industry and enterprise were to have fairplay. He had always contemplated this crisis, as (sooner or later) one of the results of the Reform Bill; and he begged them to remark, that the very persons who opposed the passing of that measure—who told that they could not be enfranchised without danger to the State—now declared that the present attempt to break down prohibitions and monopolies was nothing more than a party game—a miserable contest whether Whig or Tory should rule the destinies of the nation. It was no such thing—it was a great national struggle, involving the welfare of the whole people of the United Kingdom, and regarded with especial aversion and hatred by the Tory party. He rejoiced in the collision—he looked upon it with exultation, because triumph was certain. It might not be immediate: he did not anticipate (to borrow a figure from the amusements of the day), that the people would "win in a canter." (Laughter.) They might be "distanced" in the first instance, but ultimate success was as certain as that the sun's light would illuminate the coming day. (Applause.) Looking at the prospects of the several elections, there was every thing to gladden them on the Tyne. In Gateshead, his friends were not despairing of success. (Laughter.) In Newcastle, things looked very well. In North Shields, the Liberal candidate occupied an excellent position. In South Shields, he had been assured, the prospect was all in favour of free trade. In Durham, the second Tory candidate had fled the field. In South Durham, two Reformers would be elected And as to the metropolis of the empire, a friend on whom he was disposed to place great reliance, had informed him that there was not the slightest doubt of Lord John Russell's election. (Loud applause.) So strong, indeed, was the feeling of the electors of London in favour of the proposed measures, that his friend thought it not impossible that the four liberal candidates would be all returned. But although in the metropolis, and in this northern district of England, the prospect was favourable, he could not conceal from himself, nor would he hide his opinion from this meeting, that in the counties of England generally it was probable that the friends of free trade would be defeated. He had lived long enough, however, to learn, that the triumph of delusion was only for a day. (Loud applause.) Ultimate success was sure—and what did success imply? [Mr. Hutt proceeded to enforce the vast importance of the removal of restrictions and prohibitions, and to set forth the advantages to the great body of the people that must necessarily ensue from freedom of trade.] These few general remarks (he said), he had thought it right to make in the present meeting; but on the following evening, when he hoped to meet the electors and inhabitants generally, he would speak more fully, and would enter into any explanations of his views that might be desired. (Loud applause.) Before he sat down, there was one point on which he would say a word or two, that his sentiments thereupon might be known at once. He referred to the subject of a canvass. (Hear, hear.) On this as on other topics, he would deal plainly and openly with them. He had very strong objections, on principle, to a canvass of the electors. If the understanding were, that a candidate went to Parliament for his own purposes, and not for those of his constituents, then it was all right and appropriate that he should solicit

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their suffrages are personal favour; but if he went to Parliament, not for his own purposes, but for those of the electors, then to ask them for their votes as a personal obligation was a perfect absurdity. (Applause.) His conduct and opinions were before the electors of Gateshead. If they approved of them, let them elect him for their sakes, not his. To be so returned, he would esteem a high and enviable distinction. But not so, if, deeming him deficient in the necessary requisites for the office of a senator, they elected him because he bowed respectfully, shook hands cordially, and coaxed very hard. (Applause and laughter.) In Gateshead, where purity of election shone so conspicuously, it would, he thought, be unworthy of the constituency to require him to go amongst them, begging for a seat in Parliament as though he were petitioning for a room in an almshouse. (Applause.) He had never done so at Hull—he would prefer to leave it undone in Gateshead. But he was in the hands of his committee, and would be guided by their wishes. Let not the meeting suppose that he shrunk from personal labour. Those who knew him best—who were most intimately acquainted with his Parliamentary conduct—knew that he never spared himself, when he could be of service to his constituents or his country. He was ready to go round, and call on every elector, if it were thought requisite that he should be made personally acquainted with the constituency. But unless it were thought very desirable, he would rather not go a-begging to them for their votes. Such a practice, in his opinion, was not consistent with the respect due to the electors, nor to the high honour with which their representative was invested. (Applause.)

Mr. W. H. Brockett moved a resolution recommending that a meeting of the electors and other inhabitants be held on Friday night, at 8 o'clock, to afford them an opportunity of becoming fully acquainted with the views and sentiments of Mr. Hutt. (Applause.)

Mr. Joseph Price seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously passed.

Mr. T. Revely then proposed that Mr. Hutt be requested to meet his committee at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, with a view to a personal call on the electors, that he might make himself acquainted with them individually.

This motion, when seconded, was put to the meeting, and carried. Two hands were held up in the negative.

Mr. Hutt wished to say, before the meeting closed, that if, on the following night, he should omit (as was likely) to express his opinions on some questions whereon explanations were desired, he would be most ready to answer any questions that were put to him. (Applause.)

Thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

On Friday morning, Mr. Hutt, attended by a considerable number of his friends, proceeded to call upon the electors a their respective homes, and was very favourably received. In the afternoon, however, the weather became unfriendly, and his further progress was delayed. This morning he was to resume his calls; and, if practicable, he will wait upon every elector prior to Tuesday next, (the day of nomination.)

Last night, in accordance with the resolution of Thursday, (which was made known to the public by handbill,) the electors and other inhabitants assembled in Mr. Freeman's long-room, which was crowded.

Ald. Wilson was called to the chair, and, in the course of a few opening remarks, expressed his conviction that every gentleman who desired to address the meeting would obtain a fair and patient hearing. (Applause.)

Mr. Hutt rose to address the meeting, amidst loud cheering, and spoke nearly as follows:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I have come hither, as my friend Mr. Wilson has very properly stated, to lay before you a full statement of my opinions on the great public questions of the day. Although you cannot be wholly unacquainted with my general sentiments on political matters, it is so necessary, for the satisfaction of both parties, for a full understanding to exist between every representative and constituency, that I rejoice the day has at last arrived, when, having discharged every duty which I owed to the people of Hull, I am able to present myself to your notice, and to lay before you, as fully as you may desire, an explanation of my political principles. (Applause.) I have been led to suppose, that there may be individuals in this assembly, who have come hither with no prejudice in my favour. I am not sorry for it. Whether electors of this borough or not, from me they shall receive every courtesy; and I have been too much accustomed to meet, on these occasions, large bodies of my fellow-countrymen, to doubt that they will accord me a patient and candid hearing, and that if they avail themselves of the opportunity to which I invite them, of asking explanations, they will do so in that moderate and inoffensive language which every man who respects himself will use at such a time towards a fellow-citizen. (Applause.) Gentlemen, although it would be to begin with the beginning, I do not think it necessary to go into any discussion of my views of the original constitution of society, and the nature of government. I shall proceed at once to practical questions, and to the government under which we live. I have always been opposed to what has been called the finality of the Reform Bill. (Applause.) I looked upon that Bill when it passed, and still regard it, as a wise and salutary measure. In spite of the denunciations of its opponents, and the disappointment of its friends, I still think it has been productive of many noble results. But to say that the Reform Bill is a perfect work—to say that in it we have arrived at the final object of legislation—at a point beyond which we ought not to advance—has always appeared to me inconsistent with common sense. Why, Gentlemen, the Ballot—the Ballot appears to me almost an essential portion of the Reform Bill itself. (Applause.) I know it has been opposed, because that measure was one of finality; but even supposing such were the case, I should say that voting by ballot was only carrying out into practical effect one of the first objects and principles of the Act itself. One of the grand principles of the Reform Act was the enfranchisement of certain classes. Well, but when the Constitution assigned them votes, it intended that they should use them freely in the election of Members of Parliament—it intended to invest them with an honourable civil distinction. Now let me ask those who know how voting is carried on in contested elections, if the suffrage is always freely given (cries of "No, no!") —if the elector is not frequently assailed by threats of this kind from a tyrannical superior—"You shall vote for Lord A. or Mr. B., or I will take custom or employment from you. I will reduce you to a situation in which you shall beg your bread." Can a free exercise of the franchise exist under circumstances like these? You know it cannot. The franchise, therefore, instead of being an honour and an advantage, is too frequently only a mark for persecution, and a source of degradation and misfortune. Which of us would not rather resign the right of voting altogether, than be compelled to vote for a man whom we entirely disapproved of? Well, then, in order to carry out the purpose of the Reform Bill—in order that we may vote freely and conscientiously—in order to put down coercion and corruption at elections—give us Vote by Ballot. Vote by Ballot is nothing new—it is not a hobgoblin—a creation with the laws of whose nature we have no acquaintance. On the contrary there is nothing with which we are better acquainted. I myself belong to many clubs and literary societies, where every member is elected by ballot. It is even in full operation at the Carlton Club (hear, hear): and if any gentleman there were to propose, that inasmuch as Vote by Ballot was un-English, and unmanly, and unconstitutional, the Carlton Club should hereafter elect its members as we are now required to elect Members of Parliament—that is, by a system of open voting—I doubt if even in this Ballot-hating society he would not be written down as a man whose head was not well timbered. (Laughter.) I am sure the proposal would be scornfully rejected:—and yet this practice, which, from a conviction of its value and convenience, we all resort to among ourselves, we are to reject in the operations of public life (where it is a thousand times more needed) as something monstrous, and dangerous, and dishonourable. Gentlemen, it must not be supposed that Vote by Ballot for Members of Parliament, though a system very shocking to the port-wine-drinking and prejudiced members of the Carlton Club, is really obnoxious there for the idle reasons assigned. I assure you, that Carlton-Club legislators are not quite so foolish. Their real objection to the Ballot, as an institution of the State, was once clearly explained, and with candour very uncommon in him, by Sir Robert Peel. "I object to the Ballot," said Sir Robert, "because it would largely increase the popular power in this country." (Hear, hear.) No doubt it would—it would enable the people to exercise freely the political power assigned them by the Reform Act:—and that is the very reason why I approve it, and recommend it for adoption. (Applause.) It will, I hope, before many more years roll over our heads, receive the sanction of the Legislature. (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I am of opinion that we should admit the people, as much as we can consistently with general safety, to the power of managing their own affairs. I think it is the surest means of having them managed to their satisfaction. (Applause.) I advocate, therefore, the Extension of the Suffrage. I would certainly give it to all householders. (Applause, hisses, and confusion.) I shall probably be asked what virtue there is in the occupation of a house, that it should qualify a man for a vote? Certainly none. (Hear, hear.) I do not pretend it. But householders are generally a better-educated class of men, (hear, hear,) and have a stronger stake in the general good than those in smaller circum-

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stances; and therefore, at least for the present, I would limit the franchise to them. (Applause and disapprobation—cries of "Scandalous!" hisses, and much uproar.) Gentlemen, I will frankly state my sentiments, however you may receive them. I came here to state my own opinions—and no other. I am well aware that some of you do not concur in those opinions. I do not expect you to coincide in everything that I may say, but I do expect, in an assembly of Englishmen, a patient and a candid hearing. (Loud applause.) When I state to you my opinions, I state what I honestly think. If I did otherwise—if I stated, not what I thought, but what I hoped might please—then I should deserve that expression of contempt which is conveyed by your hisses. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I proceed with the development of my views. Household suffrage, in my opinion, affords a convenient line for striking the balance. We cannot settle political questions with the precision of arithmetical calculations. I know that such a limitation will necessarily exclude individuals who might be intrusted with the suffrage, not only with safety, but with advantage. I am sorry for it—it is an evil. But I see no other step between this and Universal Suffrage:—and that, I am compelled by my conviction, and not without regret, to oppose. (Disapprobation, applause, and uproar.) Until the people of this country shall be better instructed, and more sensible of the nature of moral and civil obligations, I think that the elective franchise could not, without danger to the commonwealth, be entrusted to their hands. ("Hear, hear," "Oh, oh.") Gentlemen, I know this avowal will not please you all. I have not come here to please you: I have come here to discharge a great debt, by frankly and fully laying before you my honest opinions. Let me now say a word on the subject of the Duration of Parliaments. I am opposed to the Septennial Act. To be sure, the duration of Parliaments has not been a great practical evil of late years, this being the sixth time we have had a general election since 1830. But it would be well even now to provide against the abuse. There can be little doubt that a Parliament chosen for seven years may continue to sit as the representatives of the nation, when, from the change which years have brought over the national mind, there may be no sympathy whatever between the electoral body and the representatives. (Applause.) Charles the Second kept a Parliament together seventeen years—a Parliament elected when the people were in a fever of loyalty, and which continued to be the devoted supporter of the King long after the nation would have been glad to see him go back to Holland. (Laughter.) Seven years, the present extreme duration of a Parliament, is too long. I think one year too short. I prefer the practice which existed from the Revolution down to the time of George II., of Triennial Parliaments. (Applause.) So much, then, gentlemen, for questions of organic government. I know well that the opinions which I have expressed are not in harmony with those entertained by some of the gentlemen whom I am addressing, and who will not think them liberal enough; yet they are gall and wormwood to another section of the political world, who look upon them as the very extravagance of revolutionary doctrine. (Hear, hear.) There is a party—and, gentlemen, a large and powerful party—who live in perpetual hysterics about the glory of the British Constitution, and object to any modification whatever of the Constitution as it now exists. I have no desire to disparage this Constitution, but I do not like those evidences of its glory which are exhibited in its monopolies, prohibitions, and exclusive laws. (Applause.) I want to have proofs of its glory, not in the declamations of oratory, but in the traffic that shall throng our streets—in the customers that shall crowd our shops—and in the adequate demand and reward for our industry. I want to see the glory of our Constitution in the glow of comfort and content that warms and gladdens our firesides. I want to hear it jingle in our pockets. (Laughter.) These are proofs of superiority to which all mankind will bow. From every other, all will sooner or later turn with aversion and disappointment. Look to what restrictions and trammels on our trade have brought the most industrious, enterprising, and ingenious people in the world. I will not refer to the diminished trade of the merchant, or the dwindling custom of the shopkeeper, but take the case of a labouring man—take the case of a handloom weaver. Here is a man toiling from early dawn till midnight, throwing his shuttle. What does he obtain as the reward of incessant toil? A pittance that scarcely keeps him from starving. It is to little purpose that you point out to such a man the glory of being placed under the free Constitution of England—the advantages open to him of advancing his moral and intellectual condition. He will tell you that he has no time to be wise—no spirit to be good: and that the freedom of which he hears so much is perfectly compatible with abject toil, and extreme misery, and all the external circumstances of hopeless servitude. Now I do not mean to tell you that any modification of society—that any human government, however wisely designed or honestly administered, will entirely dispel suffering from among us. I shall flatter you with no such prospect: but I do in my conscience believe, that a large portion of the misery which is accumulating around us, is the creation of bad legislation. (Hear, hear.) Permit us an unfettered use of the advantages God has given us—let us be free to trade wherever we can trade with advantage—and I have no doubt of the result. We shall not drive suffering from among us, but we shall confine the limits of its operation—we shall not make every man grow rich, but we shall find a considerable accession to the comforts of all. We have tried restriction and prohibition long enough, and largely enough—what shall we do next? We have at length arrived at a crisis in which all are satisfied that something must be done. (Hear, hear.) Turn which way we will, the voice of suffering meets our ear. Distress accumulates—the public exchequer is failing. (Hear, hear.) What is to be done? Are we to resort to new taxation? (Cries of "No, no.") So say I. But some measure must be adopted. (Interruption and great confusion.) Gentlemen, allow me to proceed. My friend whose voice is raised so loudly should wait till I am done. It is impossible that two speakers can be entertaining on this subject at the same time. (Laughter.) A remedy has been proposed—not by the laying on of new taxes, but by diminishing the sugar and timber duties, and also lowering and altering the mode of collecting the duties on corn. By this plan, the people will be relieved, while the public revenue will be improved. (A cry of "No, no! we shall be none the better off!") So say the Tory opponents of the measure. They and my friend at the other end of the room are of one mind. (Laughter.) They hate the measure, and do all in their power to imbue public opinion with the same sentiment. (Cries of "You're a Government man," and "It's all to keep in the Whigs," retorted by taunts of "You're not electors," &c.) Gentlemen, it is imputed to me that I support the principles which I now profess as a mere adherent of the Government. (A cry of "Yes, yes.") There is, I believe, in this room, an early friend of mine, who well knows that I held and avowed those principles when they formed no passport to popularity—when they were neither countenanced by Ministers of State, nor encouraged by the cheers of the multitude. (Applause.) Gentlemen, when I did not shrink from my opinions while the powerful and the powerless were alike opposed to them, I have a right to have it believed that I am now sincere in my declarations, and that I am not merely uttering them because Her Majesty's Ministers, and millions of her Majesty's subjects, are proclaiming free trade to be the true policy of Great Britain and Ireland. (Loud and protracted cheers.) Gentlemen, I invite—I do not deprecate—the strictest inquiry into my past conduct. After all, that is the best test of my capacity to serve, and my fitness to please you. You will find that during the nine years that I have been in public life, I have always been engaged on the side of civil and rational liberty—that I have been the friend of popular education, the advocate of reform both in the constitution and administration of the law—that I have been an enemy of religious persecutions, whether they took the form of direct penalties, civil disabilities, or exclusion from any of the privileges of government or of society. (Applause.) To the utmost of my ability I have promoted the great cause of human happiness and amelioration—a cause to which I hope to contribute something hereafter in the name of the electors of Gateshead. (Prolonged applause.) It is true that the present time is little propitious for sanguine expectations on that score. Those who would once more plunge us in ancient night and error, are again mustering in the field, and are loudly boasting that the banner under which the friends of improvement have so often rallied shall now be degraded and torn. How far this is true, I know not; but this I do know, that my part is chosen—and so long as one shred of that banner is flying, there shall I be found with the last of its defenders:—and victorious or vanquished—borne onward in the pride of triumph or trampled under foot—the cause in which I have contended from my early life will still be the righteous cause for me. Strong in the conviction of right—strong in the belief of the Divine protection—I will not be dismayed by the temporary triumph of delusion. I know that our principles will prevail at last—for they are potent with the might and immortal with the undying energies of Truth. (Loud and long-continued cheers.)

Mr. Cook, of Bridge-street, amidst much applause, proceeded to put a few questions to Mr. Hutt. But first he would observe, that he did expect to have heard inquiries from some of Mr. Rippon's friends—who had basked in the sunshine of his prosperity and partaken of his generous hospitality—he did expect that they would have come forward to ask why that gentleman was now so unceremoniously thrown overboard, notwithstanding that he was equally as liberal in his views as Mr. Hutt. (Hear, hear.) Alas! this was a degenerate age! Mr. Rippon was poor, and therefore neglected. Let Mr. Hutt reflect, that he too might one day be reduced to poverty. He (Mr. Cook) sincerely trusted that such would never be the case. But all men were liable to reverses; and Mr. Hutt, if this should be his lot, would know the fate for which he must prepare. His popularity, like that of Mr. Rippon, would be short-lived and evanescent. (Hear, hear.) Having made these few remarks, he would now ask Mr. Hutt how it happened that he, while disclaiming "finality" himself, supported a "finality" leader of the House of Commons.

Mr. Hutt never professed allegiance to Lord John Russell, nor to the present Administration. He supported those measures fo the Government which he approved; and if Mr. Cook would question him upon any one or more of the measures for which he had voted, he would give him every explanation. (Applause.)

Mr. Cook would next ask a question as to the Ballot. It was, in theory, a part of the Constitution of this country, that "representation ought to be co-extensive with taxation;" and when the unenfranchised classes complained of the violation of this maxim in practice, they were frequently told that they were virtually represented—that they possessed an indirect representation through the means of the enfranchised portion of the community. Well, then, if the suffrage was held in trust by a few for the good of the many, would it be fair to withdraw the few from the observation and influence of the many, by throwing around them the cloak of the Ballot? (Hear, hear.) For the last ten years the enfranchised classes had kept the

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people down, and tyrannized over them. Would they not punish and oppress them still more, if screened from the public eye by the process of secret voting? Mr. Hutt stated that the Ballot was adopted in the Carlton and other Clubs. But every member of those institutions was enfranchised, for they were founded on the principle of Universal Suffrage. (Applause.) If, under present circumstances, the electors of this country were permitted to vote secretly, the House of Commons would be justified in claiming the same privilege.

Mr. Hutt said, that he could not pretend, at a meeting like the present, to answer all the arguments on which Mr. Cook based his hostility to the Ballot—(hisses, cries of "Oh, oh," "Hear, hear, hear," and great confusion.) He trusted that they would at least hear him to the end of his sentence, before they gave expression to their feelings. (A cry of "Act honestly," "No evasion," &c.) No evasion would be practised by him (Mr. Hutt), but he must protest against being expected to reply to the arguments as well as the questions of Mr. Cook. He was not there to debate, but to state and to explain. If Mr. Cook wished to know why he was friendly to the Ballot, his answer was, that he supported it to give every elector the means of voting according to his real sentiments. (Applause.)

Mr. Cook did expect to have received a more satisfactory answer. (Hear, hear.) He would pass on, however, to inquire what Mr. Hutt meant by a "householder."

Mr. Hutt did not think that the word required any explanation. (Disapprobation.)

Mr. Cook: Would Mr. Hutt give a vote to the occupier of a garret, paying 20s. a-year rent?

Mr. Hutt: No. (Disapprobation and applause.) He had already stated that he would give the franchise to householders.

Mr. Cook: What did Mr. Hutt mean by a house?

Mr. Hutt: Really I cannot answer such a question. A dictionary will inform Mr. Cook. The question appears to be put with the design of entangling me with definitions. (Laughter and disapprobation—with a cry of "Mr. Hutt will only give one vote to one front door.")

Mr. Cook, owing to the noise which prevailed around him, was led to complain of being "much annoyed by his own friends," which was followed by a cry of "Save us from our friends, Mr. Cook," and great laughter. Mr. C. proceeded to inquire if Mr. Hutt was friendly to a property tax.

Mr. Hutt replied in the affirmative. He thought it was a very proper tax. (Applause.) He would pledge himself to vote for a property-tax, under whatever circumstances. He would keep himself free to act as circumstances might require, but he was certainly friendly to a property-tax.

Mr. Cook: Is Mr. Hutt favourable to the fixed duty of 8s. on the importation of foreign corn?

Mr. Hutt: Yes.

Mr. Cook: And yet the average duty on the importations of the last twelve years, has been less than 6s. How, then, does Mr. Hutt reconcile it with his professions of regard for the people, to support a duty of 8s.?

Mr. Hutt replied, that if Mr. Cook had inquired a little further into the subject, he would not have put this question. What was the reason that the fact was as Mr. Cook had stated. Seemingly because, during a great proportion of the period in question, the Corn Laws operated as a complete prohibition to the importation of foreign wheat. He could not speak positively as to the exact number of years that foreign corn was excluded, but he believed that there was none admitted from 1832 to 1838. It was not fair, therefore, to take an average of the whole twelve years. Mr. Cook, instead of taking the whole period that the duty was simply demandable, should have confined himself to the time during which it was actually paid; and he would then probably have found, that the average was nearer 20s. than 6s. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cook next observed, that if the Ministerial propositions were carried out, the price of wheat, it was calculated, would fall from 60s. to 40s., whereby persons with fixed incomes would benefit to the extent of one-third. Would Mr. Hutt reduce the interest of the National Debt in proportion.

Mr. Hutt would *not* tamper with the National Debt. (Applause and disapprobation.) If it were honest to do so, it would be very cruel to the class whom Mr. Cook seemed more especially to take under his protection. (Hear, hear.) By far the largest portion of the debt was held by persons who were comparatively poor. (Laughter.) They might laugh, but it was true. The depositors of savings-banks, the members of friendly societies, &c., were the largest holders in the funds.

Mr. Cook would not further question Mr. Hutt. But he must tell that gentleman and his supporters, that as long as the people of this country were burdened with the 30 millions of interest of the National Debt, all such measures as those recently proposed by the Government would be utterly vain and ineffectual. Till the National Debt was touched, and touched roughly too, misery would and must prevail. (Hear, hear.) Even the boasted Charter itself, if it were carried into effect to-morrow, would be of no benefit to the people, unless the National Debt was also boldly interfered with. (Applause and disapprobation.)

No other inhabitant coming forward to question Mr. Hutt, the Chairman dissolved the meeting. Mr. Cook then moved a vote of thanks to Alderman Wilson, for his impartiality, which was seconded by Mr. Cross, and carried by acclamation. Three cheers were given for the Charter, three for Mr. Mason, and a few other "threes," and the meeting separated.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD, TO WIT.

I, WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor of the said Borough, in pursuance of a certain Precept received by me from the Sheriff of the County of Durham, and of the Statute in that case made and provided, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM and give Public Notice, that I shall proceed to the ELECTION OF ONE BURGESS, to serve in the ensuing Parliament for the said Borough, at the Town Hall in Oakwellgate, in Gateshead aforesaid, on TUESDAY, the 29th day of June instant, at TEN o'clock in the Forenoon of the same day, when and where all persons concerned are required to give their attendance.

Dated this twenty-fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

TO THE ELECTORS OF NORTH DURHAM.

GENTLEMEN,—Once more I come forward to ask for a renewal of that confidence with which you have honoured me for more than nine years, and which I feel conscious that I have deserved from my sincere adherence to those principles and opinions which I professed when first seeking your Suffrages, and from my zealous attention to the Local Interests of the County, whenever they have been brought before the Legislature.

If you decide to raise me again to the high honour of being your Representative, you will find me anxious to support the wisest Legislation, to give—Protection to the Voter—a great and comprehensive System of National Education—more ample Justice to Ireland:—and you will also find me attached to the principles of Free Trade:—Legislation which I shall hope to see carried into execution with all that circumspection and statesmanlike discretion which the vast and varied interests of this empire seem to require.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

London, 18th June, 1841. HEDWORTH LAMBTON.

A TORY ON FREE TRADE.

[Mr. Robert Gardner, one of the largest manufacturers in the world, made the following speech at a recent meeting in Salford]:—

If he were addressing the House of Lords, or House of Commons, he would not be understood; but only reduce them to the wages of 20s. a week, and if they had wives and families, he would guarantee they would then understand the question. (Applause.) The whole of the earnings of the poor man must be absorbed in food; and, consequently, he could not employ tailors, hatters, shoemakers, &c. The landed aristocracy and interest were absolutely levying a tax upon every poor man in the kingdom, that took precedence of government taxes, and prevented them spending anything in tea, sugar, &c. He (Mr. Gardner) had now two cargoes of sugar coming from Brazil, received in return for yarn and cloth; and, though a fair quality of brown sugar, he should be glad to sell it at 2d. a pound; but for such sugar as the people here must consume he could get 7d. a pound; the duty on colonial sugar being 3d.,

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and on foreign sugar 7½d. a pound. As Lord Palmerston said, when sugar got to a certain price we lost our consciences, and could then consume slave-grown sugar. (Hear and laughter.) While we paid 7½d. for the coarse brown sugar of the West Indies, the negroes were consuming our refined slave-grown sugar at 4d. a pound. (Hear, hear.) By the late decision of the House of Commons it was decreed we should not receive foreign sugars; and Sir R. Peel stated our colonies were sufficient to supply us. (Hear.) So they were, if the price was raised to 1s. a pound. (Hear.) He had made a calculation that if we were to pay a shilling a pound we should require 100,000 tons; if we paid 10d. we should require 140,000 tons; if we got it at 8d. we should use 180,000 tons; and if at 6d., the price at which good brown sugar ought to be, we should use 250,000 tons. (Hear.) Suppose he told Sir R. Peel that tomorrow he should only have half the quantity of food he had today, and if Sir R. Peel said, "That's not enough," and he were to reply, "I say it is enough, and shall be enough." (Hear, hear.) This would in fact be what Sir Robert Peel said to the people of this country with respect to the consumption of sugar. (Applause.) This was the last time he would appear at a public meeting (no, no,) till all were agreed among themselves. Now, he would tell them what he was. "I am understood to be a Tory," continued Mr. Gardner, "but I will tell you what my views are. I am prepared with all my hand and heart, by all lawful means, cordially and sincerely, to join either Tory, Conservative, Whig, Radical, or Chartist (hear), to accomplish this great object. (Cheers.) I am quite satisfied it is essential to our existence, and without this, as a nation, we are as sure to go down as possible." (Hear.) If we had been unfettered in commerce, with corn at a moderate price, we might have been now in a state of comfort instead of one of starvation. (Hear.) It was stated that we were going to have a general election. Now, he would say nothing to them on a political score; but he would say that every man who did not vote for those who had determined to support free and unrestricted trade, ought to be starved. (Hear, hear.) The landed interest and the manufacturing interest were exactly the same, if we could but understand it. He would admit that the mills and property of the manufacturer would be first sacrificed; but what would next become of the green fields (hear), after our manufactures were destroyed? And manufactures were never known to return to a country which they had once left. (Hear, hear.) They never had done; they never would do; and, therefore, while we still had possession of any foreign markets, it was our duty to support free trade.

THE ROTHBURY INQUIRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—The proceedings, so far as they went, before Mr. Commissioner Lewis, at Rothbury, on the 18th and 19th inst., were so truly ridiculous and contemptible, that it would only be wasting time to record them at length; and, no doubt, the Commissioner and Mr. Cooke—who, were brought down by their anxiety to hear all that the Rector of Rothbury could advance in support of the grave charges which he brought forward, in the shape of a "brief" of greater bulk than both his London advocates—will enjoy a hearty laugh, now that they are again snugly seated within Somerset House. Mr. Harcourt being a scion of an aristocratic House, and the state of the public mind being at this time predisposed to political fever, it was not bad policy of the Commissioners to send one of their body to satisfy a gentleman who had, on the announcement of Mr. Walter's election for Nottingham, thrown out a significant hint to the Guardians of the Rothbury Union, that they now had an organ through which they could express their opinions upon the "Bastile Laws." Mr. Lewis listened with great patience to the two hours' twaddle of Mr. Manisty, who had the moral courage to offer the valuable stake of his professionable reputation, that he would prove his ponderous brief correct—though he admitted that it was the production of some other less acute individual; but this admission was not only made *after* it was proved to be a mountain of falsehoods. Oh fie, Mr. Attorney Manisty! Really this was giving a kick at the dead lion.

You will not be surprised, Mr. Editor, to hear that the great inquiry caused no little sensation in Rothbury and its neighbourhood. The dreadful note of preparation which had so long been sounded by the "drum ecclesiastic," to beat up for recruits that were to fight under the holy banner of Whitton Tower, had excited the curiosity of all—especially of those who were strangers to the clerical capers of the Rector of Rothbury. The *Newcastle Journal*, only a few days before, had told the world (and who ever disputed any of *its* assertions?) that the investigation would bring to light "*many disgraceful acts of jobbing*." A professional exquisite had travelled "post from town," after the incognito fashion of those great men who wish at times to be relieved from the annoying gaze of the public. Had the London Jurist not adopted the obscure cognomen of "Lewis" upon the "way bills," what "a pressure from without" would the lacqueys and waiters in the Black Bull Hotel have sustained, upon the arrival of such a *rara avis*. The soothsayers and magicians attached to the Rectorial establishment had predicted a triumph—the French cook in the Tower had spitted a splendid frog in consequence of the prandian invitations which had gone to High Carrick and the "Black Bull"—nay, it is even said that the last sermon smacked of Cocker's arithmetic—clerks and calculators had been seen running from the Tower to the Workhouse—not with roast beef and plumpudding, but with large bags stuffed with ledgers; and the Rector had toiled hard, even as Joe Hume works during the week preceding the opening of the Chancellor's Budget. Then, with symptoms like these, was it surprising that strangers should flock into Rothbury upon the memorable 18th of June, the anniversary of another great victory gained over an ambitious and unprincipled enemy.

Mr. Lewis took his seat at 12 o'clock, in the school-room, which in a few minutes, became crowded. This school was founded, I believe, by a Dr. Tomlinson, Rector of Rothbury, about a century ago, for the education of the children of the poor. The present Master, the Rev. Mr. Bainbridge, is universally respected for his kind and inoffensive disposition. Perhaps the benevolent founder of this charity little dreamt that one day it was to become the theatre of a scene of action between the Rector of Rothbury and his people. The very face of the Rector, while he sat behind his advocates, was a moral. Pantomimes can produce a moral. How he smiled (and how singular is his smile!) when his eyes gloated upon his brief, which was to blast the reputation of the living, and blacken the memory of the dead. The license of counsel is great—but the sacredness of the grave is greater. Mr. Manisty, when raking up the ashes of my late lamented friend, Mr. Boag, might feel regret that his duty to his client so compelled him—duties have sometimes tangible equivalents. But if the Rector's gold urged Mr. Manisty to do his duty, the manner in which it was discharged clearly proved that the duty was not uncongenial to his feelings. The resurrectionists who supply the anatomical schools may plead the same excuse. Did Mr. Manisty imagine that those who heard him draw the frailties of my friend from their "dread abode," to glut the appetite of his Rev. Client, had so far forgotten every nobler feeling—were so void of humanity, and such strangers to sympathy—that they could howl over the grave with the yells of cannibals, and violate its sacred contents with unhallowed hands. No! the generous heart wars not with the dead. And here let me turn my feelings of admiration towards the conduct of Mr. Charles Manisty, who came nobly forward, amongst others, and gave his testimony on Friday, at Rothbury, to the honesty and kindness of disposition of the late Mr. Boag. Did the Rector prove by his hired advocate one single fraud against that unfortunate and ill-used man? Like the charges against Mr. Woodman, the highly-respected Clerk to the Board, every imputation turned out to be unfounded. Not a single fraud could be proved against the late Relieving Officer. Mr. Woodman, unlike poor Boag, still lives, and is much better qualified than I am to reprove those who have impotently attempted to ruin his reputation. But I cannot refrain from expressing my detestation of a man who can, because he tells us he is paid for it, stand within the walls of a seminary, with his paymaster at his back, and within view of that altar where such a master drinks the emblem of the blood of a Saviour—and there, in the face of men, slander the memory of their departed friend:—and after doing so, be forced to acknowledge that there were no grounds for such base insinuations. When Mr. Manisty found charge after charge demolished before his eyes, then he requested a few minutes' consultation with his Rev. Client; and when they returned into court, with the semblance of regret he confessed—that Mr. Harcourt had

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been led to entertain opinions which were visionary, and abandoned all further proceedings,

When the devil was sick,
The devil a saint would be;
But when the devil got well,
The devil a saint was he.

Time will prove whither the repentance of the Rector is really sincere. When he begins to make reparation, the symptoms will be favourable.—But a man who can, through the mouth of an advocate, call upon the Poor Law Commissioners to enforce the law to its *very letter*, and rejoices that Mr. Walter is chosen for Nottingham, so that that very law may be repealed, must be a strange compound. Will the Rector and his half-dozen *disinterested* supporters assert that they have not had an impartial trial? If Mr. Lewis erred, it was by extending too much courtesy to the Rector's cause. Was it because the Commissioner knew the rottenness of that cause, that gave him such a disinclination to hear any reply from the accused parties' advocates, Messrs. Charlton & Busby? He looked as if he was confident that the Rector would fall into the pit that he had been digging for others. If the Rector of Rothbury at times allows his choler to force from his tongue many foul names, he can also, when occasion serves, conduct himself with prudence. Is this cunning? Dared he not place too much reliance upon his Christian virtues, that forced him to surrender before he had received a single broadside from the eminent advocates of the defendants. Then, allowing the case to have been shivered to atoms by those gentlemen, how would the Rector have stood in the character of a defendant? How would he have appeared, as a gentleman and the son of an Archbishop, before Commissioner Lewis, when language and conduct towards the Officers and Guardians of the Rothbury Union would have been proved to have been uttered by him, which would have disgraced the lips of a scavenger? The poor were made to believe that the Rector was battling for them. If he is a friend to the poor, it is time that they had some practical proof of his friendship. With an income of £2,500, derived from tithes and oblations, he cannot plead the want of means to carry out the benevolent feelings of his heart. Objects there are, too many, in his parish, upon whom he might display the character of a benefactor. Cottages can be found in need of the necessaries of life. But these are strangers to him. He has received from the "Poor Man's Church," since he came to the living of Rothbury, the round sum of *fifty thousand pounds;* and let his friends (if he has *one* sincere friend in his parish) prove if they can that he ever distributed, during the whole of his residence, one thousand *pence* amongst the poor. It is sickening, Mr. Editor, to wade any further. If I am asked why I have attacked the Rector of Rothbury, I reply, because he is public property. Mr. Manisty took a fee to attack a dead man—is it wrong in me to attack a living ***, without either fee or reward?

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

Bywell, June 21, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

GRAND DISCOVERY IN CHEMISTRY.

A DISCOVERY has been lately made, which is likely to extend widely the boundaries of chemical science. The views of the alchemists with regard to the transmutation of metals are now shown to be of possible realization.

Chemists have ceased to draw any line of distinction between those bodies ordinarily termed metals, and other elementary substances—*i. e.*, in proceeding through the list of elements, from oxygen to platinum, we cannot say where the metallic property commences.

Now, Dr. Samuel Brown, of Edinburgh, has given proof, in a paper read before the Royal Society of that place, that the elementary body, carbon, can be converted into silicon—which last substance was, not long ago, considered metallic. Observe—this is not the decomposition of silicon, or rather the formation of it from a new base, but the proof of the absolute convertibility of one elementary body into another, which we must still regard as simple.

This grand discovery, second to none that has ever been made in science, and likely to prove of vast benefit in its results to the resources of the Arts, is the work of a young man—who had, however, already given proof of the greatest powers—*ex pede Herculem.*

Like other great discoveries, it has been preceded by such indicative facts as might gradually induce us to regard it as possible. We allude to the doctrines and facts of isomerism, which showed that some compound bodies, presenting on analysis the same chemical composition, might yet differ greatly in properties. In these cases it was conceived that the atoms might be differently arranged, or that the composition of the one body might be represented by doubling the atoms of the other, and so forth. Thus, if we have a body where composition may be represented by *a b*, we may write it *b a*, or twice *a b*. Now, as our only reason for believing any body to be simple is that we are unable to decompose it, it was quite possible that some of the bodies which we call simple might really be compound and isomeric.

But to sum up the facts presented by Dr. Brown:—His late communication is purely of a practical character, the author having refrained from presenting what he conceives to be the *rationale* of the singular facts he has discovered, until further investigations of a similar kind shall have been executed by himself or others. The manner in which the author establishes the isomerism of carbon and silicon is very simple, and consists in giving a great many processes by which the former may be converted into the latter. These are contained in a series of five sections. The first treats of the production of silicon from free paracyanozen; the second, of the formation of *mixed* siliciurets of copper, iron, and platinum, by the reaction of paracyanozen; the third, of the quantity of nitrogen separated from paracyanozen, when it is changed into nitrogen and silicon; the fourth describes processes for the preparation of transparent crystallized siliciuret of iron from the paracyanide of iron and the ferrocyanide of potassium; and the fifth gives easy processes for the extraction of silicic acid from ferrocyanide of potassium by the action of carb. potass.

The last of these processes has been repeated in the laboratory of the Newcastle Medical School, and found to give the result described by Dr. Brown. G.

Newcastle, June 24, 1841.

PUBLIC DINNER TO WILLIAM HUTT, ESQ

A PUBLIC DINNER will be given to William Hutt, Esq., at Freeman's Long Room, Gateshead, on Wednesday, the 30th inst.

Dinner on the table at 4 o'clock.
Tickets 12s. each, to be had at the Bar.

Committee Room, 25th June, 1841.

The Newcastle and Gateshead elections take place on the days named in our last week's paper—Newcastle on Monday, and Gateshead on Tuesday. Morpeth election is also fixed for Tuesday. The Sunderland election takes place on Wednesday: the Tynemouth election on Thursday. The South Northumberland election is fixed for Monday week, at Hexham; and the North Northumberland for the following day, at Alnwick. South Durham, Tuesday week, at Darlington: North Durham, Wednesday week, at Durham.

Mr. Charles Attwood, the *Sheffield Iris* tells us, addressed a public meeting in that town, a few nights ago, and said:—"I would vote for the narrowest, most bigoted, and most violent Tory that ever lived, rather than for the most honest, the most liberal, and the most intelligent of the whole Whig party." We wish the Tories joy of Mr. Attwood's countenance and support. Well may the *Iris* call him "The Newcastle *Dromio.*" The Chartists of Newcastle and of Sunderland have been speaking of him for a candidate. The Sunderland invitation, we see, he accepts.

EXAMINATION AT CROW-HALL ACADEMY. — On Friday, the 18th inst., the annual examination of Mr. Grieve's pupils took place in a tent prepared for the purpose; and a large assemblage of the gentry of the neighbourhood, including many of the parents of the young gentlemen belonging to the school, amounting to about 300 persons, attended on the occasion. The various classes were examined by the Rev. Hugh Nanney, vicar of Jarrow, the Rev. F. W. Bewsher, of Gateshead Fell, and Samuel Forster, Esq., of Jarrow; when the very apt and efficient manner in which they went through their several parts, gave universal satisfaction and delight to the company. After the examination, the company were addressed by Mr. Nanney, who gave the most unqualified praise to the general proficiency of the classes in their several depart-

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ments, and to the system pursued by Mr. Grieve. Mr. Bewsher afterwards addressed the pupils, during which he expressed himself much pleased with their attainments, and gave them great encouragement to proceed in the course they were pursuing, so creditable to themselves and their excellent master. During the day, a very excellent luncheon was prepared for those visiting the school. The following are the names of the boys who gained the prizes:—

Horace.—Master Reay, son of Mr. John Reay, of Jarrow-Wood House.

Cæsar.—Master Cowper, son of Mr. Cowper, South Shields.

Eutropius.—First Prize, Master Clark, son of John Clark, Esq., North Shields: Second Prize, Master H. Forsyth, son of Thomas Forsyth, Esq., South Shields.

First Arithmetical Class.—Master Swan, son of Mr. John Swan, North Shields.

Second Arithmetical Class.—First Prize, Master Liddell, son of Mr. Liddell, Newcastle: Second Prize, Master H. Forsyth, son of T. Forsyth, Esq.

First Grammar Class.—Master Reay, son of Mr. John Reay, Jarrow-Wood House.

Second Grammar Class.—Master Forsyth, son of T. Forsyth, Esq.

Third Grammar Class.—Master Marshall, son of Mr. Marshall, Newcastle.

History and Geography.—Master Reed, son of Mr. Reed, Seghill.

Astronomy.—Master Hall, son of Michael Hall, Esq., Beason Lough.

Euclid.—Master Reed, son of Mr. James Reed, Seghill.

First Geographical Class.—Master Wilson, son of Mrs. Carnaby, North Shields.

Second Geographical Class.—Master H. Forsyth, son of T. Forsyth, Esq.

First Writing Class.—Master Brown, nephew of Mr. Brown of Cowpen, near Blyth.

Second Writing Class.—Master Coutt, son of Mr. Coutt, Low Fell.

Third Writing Class.—Master Robson, son of Mr. Robson, Shipcote, Gateshead.

Fourth Writing Class.—Master Todd, son of Mr. Todd, Low Fell.

Homer.—Master Reed, son of Mr. James Reed, Seghill.

Valpy's Greek Delectus.—Master Cowper, son of Mr. Cowper, South Shields.

THE GATESHEAD ELECTION.

THE nomination took place on Tuesday, June 29, in front of the town-hall, Oakwellgate, where hustings had been erected for the occasion.

Mr. Hutt met a large number of his supporters at the committee-room in the Grey Horse inn, at 9 o'clock in the morning; and shortly before 10, a procession was formed, at the head of which was Messrs. Hawks & Co.'s excellent band of musicians, with several splendid purple-and-orange flags, one bearing the inscription of "Hutt and Independence." Mr. Hutt, in his progress to the hustings, was accompanied by Messrs. Hawks, Wilson, Pollock, Brockett, Stanley, Swinburne, Walker, Brady, Parker, Colman, Harle, Wylam, Bennett, Revely, Kimpster, J. Hymers, Honeyman, Watson, Matchitt, Haggie, &c. Mr. Mason and his friends afterwards marched in procession to the hustings, with flags, one of which was inscribed "Rippon and Liberty." The two candidates were each loudly cheered on presenting themselves in front of the hustings—at which time there was a great concourse of people assembled in Oakwellgate.

The MAYOR, WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., presided as Returning Officer; and the TOWN CLERK read the Sheriff's writ, the Bribery Act, &c., in the ordinary form.

Mr. Ald. WILSON said, it now became his duty to nominate a candidate for the representation of the borough of Gateshead in Parliament. The gentleman whom he was about to propose, William Hutt, Esq., of Gibside, (cheers,) was so well known to the inhabitants of Gateshead, that his (Mr. Wilson's) duty would be very easy indeed. As a friend and neighbour, Mr. Hutt was all that could be wished; and the records of Parliament bore witness to his high character as a representative of the people. (Cheers.) His close attention to his public duties—his perseverance, honesty, and ability, taken in connection with his liberal principles, eminently qualified him to be a member of the House of Commons; and he (Mr. W.) hoped that the people of Gateshead would prove, by a show of hands, that Mr. Hutt was the man of their choice. (Cheers, and cries of "No, no.") He had great pleasure in nominating Mr. Hutt as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament.

Mr. Ald. POLLOCK was proud of the honour of seconding his friend Mr. Wilson's nomination. Mr. Hutt's pretensions to represent the borough of Gateshead were well-founded, and his ability for the office was known to them all. He had represented the town of Hull for the last nine years, with great advantage to his constituents, and no less honour to himself. There was not, in his (Mr. Pollock's) opinion, a gentleman in the North of England more competent to discharge the duties of a Member of Parliament. He might speak more particularly of his qualifications, but, as his neighbours were aware, he (Mr. Pollock) was not in the habit of addressing public assemblies; and he would therefore merely add—and it was the sincere conviction of his heart—that Mr. Hutt was in every respect a fit and proper man to represent the borough of Gateshead in the House of Commons. (Cheers.)

Mr. HUTT, in coming forward to address the people, was received with "three times three," mingled with cries of disapprobation. Electors of Gateshead, (said he,) before I proceed to speak on other matters which the important business we are now engaged in may suggest to my mind, permit me to explain to you the circumstances under which I present myself to you this day as a candidate for the representation of this borough in Parliament. I stand on these hustings at the request of 360 electors of Gateshead, who, in the year 1839, paid me the compliment—and I shall always consider it one of the greatest honours of my life—to request that I would suffer myself to be put in nomination at the first general election for Gateshead. (Cheers.) As a private individual, they could have known little more of me than that I resided in their neighbourhood; for I had purposely abstained from taking much share in their local affairs. As a public man, they knew that during a number of years I had represented a great commercial town in a neighbouring county, (a cry of "You may go back again," and laughter,) and that I had performed the duties thereby devolving on me with fidelity and diligence. I claim no other praise—and the requisitionists were willing to overlook my many deficiencies, for the sake of the honest intentions by which they were accompanied. I responded to the call with great satisfaction; and hereafter, whatever power I possess of doing justice to a great public trust, shall be devoted to your service. (Applause.) It is a fact perhaps worth my naming, that when I first became acquainted with Hull, in 1832, that town was suffering from the effects of one of those depressions in trade which are now affecting the industry of Gateshead, in common with other parts of the empire. Everything seemed more or less at a stand-still. Since I have represented Hull, the receipts of the Custom House have nearly doubled—its shipping has augmented in a corresponding amount—and everything indicates a prodigious augmentation of its trading interests. Let me hope that a similar good fortune will attend my connection with this town. (Cheers.) There is now, gentlemen, a question of organic change in our institutions, to which I will, at the request of an elector, for a few moments direct your attention—I refer to the question of Household Suffrage. (Applause, disapprobation, and much noise from one individual in the crowd.) If the gentleman will wait till I am done, he shall speak afterwards. (Laughter.) I cannot better describe what I intend by Household Suffrage, than by adopting the words of the late lamented Earl of Durham, who, at a dinner given to him in Newcastle, in the year 1834, at which the late Mr. W. H. Ord presided, said in my presence:—

"The right of voting," observed Lord Durham, "I propose should be given to all inhabitants *bona fide* rated to church or poor or assessed taxes, and paying direct taxes, for six months prior to the first day of election, not having received parochial relief."

(Applause and disapprobation.) Household Suffrage is, in fact, the municipal franchise, only unclogged by the objectionable restriction of a three years' residence. Gentlemen, Household Suffrage involves no new and unheard-of principle. It was advocated by the illustrious Earl of Chatham—by Charles James Fox—by Earl Grey—and by the "Friends of the People." (Cheers.) In 1821, Lord Durham made it the basis of a Bill which he introduced into Parliament. And in addition to, and above, all these great authorities, it is consistent with the great principles of the Constitution, and in consonance with the spirit and the exigencies of the times. (Loud cheers, and cries of "No, no.") I will now dismiss the subject of organic change, and address myself to matters which, at the present crisis, are of more urgent and vital importance. The attention of the country is now turned with great anxiety to the question of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) It suits the purposes of more than one political

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party, to represent the demand for Commercial Reform as a mere struggle for office, or the mere rallying cry of a political party. Gentlemen, Commercial Reform is no party question. It is a subject of the deepest interest to the whole population of this empire—nor let the passions or the interests of individuals disguise its character. It is, in fact, this plain and simple proposition—Do you like shillings or sixpences the best? For my part, I am for the shillings. (Laughter.) I wish we were as sure of gaining the shillings as we are right in preferring them. Unfortunately too many powerful persons profit by paying us in the smaller coin, to render it probable we shall soon obtain the larger. Even when public men admit the soundness of the system of untrammelled commerce as an abstract principle, they always endeavour to make a reservation in favour of the monopoly in which they are interested. I remember hearing Lord Spencer state, that when he was canvassing Northamptonshire, ten years ago, a voter who professed to admire "the abolition of all monopolies," applied to know whether he would introduce a Bill into Parliament for preventing more than one beer-shop being opened in the same town. (Laughter.) Lord Spencer naturally inquired why this honest man felt so deep an interest in beer-shop legislation. The patriot replied, that where he lived, he kept the only beer-shop himself. (Much laughter.) Now, gentlemen, this beer-shop principle is, I fear, very active among us, and will be found to influence and disturb our Parliamentary councils. The West Indian planters are many of them for free trade as respects corn and timber; but propose to them to reduce the extravagant duties on Brazilian products, and then the men who sold us the other day their interest in slaves for twenty millions of money (groans and hisses), and who were very loth to lay their hands off them even after the money was paid, become scandalized at the prospect of encouraging negro-slavery. (Hear, hear.) On this account, they object to any alteration of the sugar laws. Talk to men interested in the Canadian timber monopoly—they fully admit the expediency, even for the sake of the English landowner and West Indian planters themselves, of exposing them to the fearful influence of competition, but, in the same breath, they will tell you that the duty on Baltic timber must not be reduced—or what becomes of our navy? (Laughter.) What is this country to do for seamen, if we do not employ them in sailing across the Atlantic to purchase bad timber, instead of sending them to the Baltic for good timber? And out of this pure and disinterested regard for our sailors, they will resist to the death any alteration of the timber-laws. Then comes "the farmer's friend"—some Duke of Buckingham, or other patriot. Now, he cares no more, on his own account, for the protecting laws which enhance the price of grain, than young ladies care about getting married (great laughter), but he has found out that cheap corn means low wages—and that the dearer bread is, the happier is the labouring man. (Hear, hear.) So out of a generous and unquestionable regard for the poorer classes, he stands up, on all occasions, for British agriculture.—Such are the pretexts under which men are too apt to justify the laws which are in direct opposition to a principle of which they admit the validity, whenever their special interest is at stake. There can be no doubt that monopolies in every shape, whether in West Indian sugar or Canadian timber—whether in British corn or in beer-shops—are the fruitful source of suffering to the community. The Corn Laws have always appeared to me the most mischievous regulations which could well be devised. In the first place, they expose us to the utmost attainable fluctuation in the price of food. In the second, they are destructive of all regular or healthy commerce with the corn-growing countries which would be our best customers. In the third, when we are obliged, by the failure of our own harvests, to purchase corn of these countries, we are assailed by two different calamities at the same time—a starvation price of bread—and a drain of bullion, producing a contracted currency, a difficulty of banking accommodation, (hear, hear,) and a fearful derangement of all the operations of industry, such as we now suffer. Some time ago, I published, with a few preparatory remarks, a compendium of the evidence taken before a Committee of the House of Commons, which appeared to me to exhibit, in a remarkable manner, the impolicy of the present Corn Laws to all parties. My views were warmly supported by a very distinguished man, and a great agriculturist, the present Speaker of the House of Commons, who had been Chairman of the Committee. I proposed in my publication to adopt a fixed duty on foreign corn of five shillings per quarter. Many persons thought this was too low—they pointed out the malt-tax, and other taxes on the agricultural interest, and the expediency of looking to the public revenue. Moreover, it was contended that it would be highly injudicious to endanger, by so sudden a change, large masses of capital, which had been invested in land under the sanction of vicious laws. I do not pretend to have ascertained the only rightful amount of duty. But of this I feel no doubt, that a moderate fixed duty on corn is the policy of all classes and all interests; and happy would I be, if, with justice to all parties, and proper regard to the public revenue, we could remove all duty whatever on the importation of foreign corn. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, there is another subject, connected with the Corn Laws, on which, before I conclude, I wish to say a few words. I have long laboured, as some of you may be aware, to effect such an alteration in the law as would permit the grinding of foreign corn in bond, or at bonded prices. As the law now stands, our shipowners, merchants, and tradesmen, are shut out from a large and lucrative trade, which is handed over to the people of the Continent—the French, the Dane, the Germans, and the Austrians. (Hear, hear.) An act of greater folly and injustice cannot possibly be conceived. I have not yet succeeded in accomplishing a change in the law, but I am determined to persevere in my exertions; and I have no doubt that the work which I began as the representative of Hull, I shall successfully complete as the representative of Gateshead. (Applause.) Gentlemen, there are other and many questions in the wide field of Commercial Reform, which afford ample scope for the exertions of every member of the House of Commons. Mine shall not be spared. In aspiring to the honour of being your representative, I know that if I do my duty to you and my country, I must do it at the sacrifice of much personal enjoyment and domestic comfort—perhaps at the loss of health itself. But, gentlemen, although I prize the happiness of a private station, I have likewise my ambition; and I have no desire to spend a life which is so short, in the ignoble pursuits of a selfish indulgence. (Loud and protracted cheers.)

Mr. Kirker rose to nominate Mr. Mason, of Newcastle, (Cries of "You're not an elector.") If he was not an elector, he ought to be; and whether or not, he would propose a fit and proper candidate—one who was well known, not merely in Gateshead, but through all England, and Scotland, and Wales, and Ireland. (Cheers—cries of "He's too well known!"—and laughter.) He was celebrated in all the three kingdoms, and yet there were persons to be found who said he was not competent to represent the insignificant borough of Gateshead. (Great laughter, and cries of "Do you mean to insult us?") Mr. Hutt, they were told, had given up Hull to come to Gateshead. How were the mighty fallen! (Laughter.) What a falling off! to retire from Hull and come to such a place as Gateshead! (Laughter, and cries of "You're very flattering!") And Mr. Hutt professed to be highly honoured! Beautifully honoured, indeed! (Laughter.) The census had been taken, and it would soon be seen how many electors and how many non-electors there were in the borough. Why were they not all electors? He was sure he ought to be one. (Laughter.) When Mr. Hutt went to Parliament—and no doubt he soon would (laughter)—he would find a petition lying under the table, signed by 2,100,000 persons, for the liberation of the political prisoners. Why were they not liberated? It was for the same reason that had led to the dissolution of Parliament:—because parties stood on an equal balance in the House of Commons. The address for the liberation of the prisoners was lost by the casting vote of the Speaker, who had no right to vote at all. He was for a Tory Government—not the terrible Whigs. Castlereagh, who committed every possible outrage on humanity, never went so far as the Whigs had done. (Cheers and laughter.) The Attorney General, in the House of Commons, boasted that he had put down the Chartists. Had he put them down? (Cries of "No, no!") He, too, said no: they were never so strong as they were at the present time. (Laughter.) They gained new strength with every fall, and they would one day obtain the Charter. (Cheers.) The middle classes had votes, and it was right they should: he had nothing to say against them—they were all good and honourable men, he believed, They were entitled to the franchise, and he was only sorry the working classes could not keep them company. (Hear, hear.) He had lived a long time in Gateshead, and ought to have a

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vote. Mr. Hutt said so too—he said every rated inhabitant ought to have a vote. But would Mr. Hutt give a man a vote directly he had paid his first quarter's rent? (Laughter.) He would not any longer occupy the time of his brother electors and non-electors, but nominate Mr. Mason, and give place to abler speakers. (Applause.)

Some person, whose name we could not hear, seconded the nomination.

The MAYOR said, that Mr. Kirker not being an elector, the nomination was invalid. The law required that a candidate should be nominated by an elector, and he must abide by the law.

Mr. MASON replied that his nomination, of course, fell to the ground.

A NON-ELECTOR observed, that it would be a foul stigma on the electors of Gateshead, if none of them would nominate Mr. Mason: their characters would be blasted for ever (Cheers, and cries of "Oh! oh!") The speaker proceeded to call attention to the "Rippon and Liberty" flag, and said, that as the late Member was equally as liberal as Mr. Hutt, it was a shame to the Whigs to throw him overboard.

Mr. MASON, with the consent of the Mayor, addressed the people from the hustings. We give an outline of his speech. The law (we understood him to say) was not only so unjust as to deprive the working classes of the franchise, but it also denied the non-electors the privilege of nominating candidates for the representation of the people. (Cries of "Shame!") He had come forward, not from any personal hostility to Mr. Hutt, but in defence and support of great principles. (Cheers.) And Mr. Hutt must perceive, from the manifestation of public feeling in this great assembly, that though he might be returned to Parliament, he would by no means represent the inhabitants of Gateshead. If the population were polled—if the votes of the wealth-producers were taken—the men to whose skill and industry the borough owed its prosperity—it would be found that Mr. Hutt was not the choice of the people. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Mason proceeded to review Mr. Hutt's political career, and to speak of him as a "scoundrel," which raised a storm in the meeting, and led to the interposition of the Returning Officer. After some conversation with Mr. M., the Mayor said that the offensive word was retracted. Mr. Mason proceeded:—He meant nothing personal to Mr. Hutt—nothing injurious to his private character. In private life he might be a very amiable man. (A cry from Mr. Joshua Watson of "What is thy private character, John Mason?" and great laughter.) The word which he had used was severe, but, in a political sense, was it not justifiable? Mr. Hutt—or at least the party with whom he acted—asserted, when speaking of the Corn Laws, that the aristocracy were robbers. And were not the Whigs robbers, in defrauding the working classes of the franchise? (Hear, hear.) If they looked back upon the history of the Whigs, it would be found that they were not only scoundrels, but perpetrators of the most odious crimes; and while he withdrew the word scoundrel from Mr. Hutt as a gentleman, he would *not* withdraw it from him as a Whig. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Hutt professed to be friendly to a repeal of the Corn Laws, and declared the people to be suffering from grievous monopolies. How was it that the aristocracy had the power to maintain their food-monopolies? Was it not because they also possessed a monopoly of legislation? Break down that monopoly, and the others would fall as a matter of course. (Hear, hear.) It was this monopoly that produced all the embarrassment and misery of the country. But the Whigs did not denounce it. The Whig Ministry, indeed, did not come forward even against the Corn Laws, until they saw they were about to be kicked out of office. Then it was that Mr. Hutt and his party came forward with the cry of "Cheap Bread." (Hear, hear.) It was a mockery to appeal for aid against the aristocracy, when those who appealed to them would not give them the franchise. How could they hope to receive support from the classes whom they opposed? He hoped that the working classes, when they found the middle classes compactly united together against their enfranchisement, would leave them to struggle with the aristocracy themselves. He would not detain them much longer. Had he been standing there, as a matter of right, he would have entered more fully into his political views; but as there were not two electors in Gateshead just and honest enough to put him in nomination (cries of "Oh, oh!") he was merely addressing the people by the indulgence of the Mayor, on whose courtesy he was anxious not to trespass too far. Let it not be supposed that he would have felt honoured by the support of the middle classes. No! he would never have consented to sit in Parliament as their representative. (Cries of "Oh, oh!" and laughter.) The time would come when the middle classes would shrink before the majesty of a united people. (Applause.) They might sneer upon him, and upon his class; but let them know that the contempt in which they held the industrious classes—(a cry of "You are not one of the industrious class!")—was as nothing in comparison with the scorn in which they themselves were held by the aristocracy. (Hear, hear.) He would now take the liberty of asking Mr. Hutt what reason he had to give why the working classes, the intelligent creators of the wealth of the nation, were not as fully entitled to enjoy, and as fully competent to exercise, the elective franchise, as the middle classes?

Mr. HUTT had not the slightest objection to answer the question:—on the contrary, he was impelled, by every feeling of duty and inclination, to reply to all such inquiries, if put to him by an elector of Gateshead. But he did not stand there to answer any question that any visitor or stranger to the town might propose to him. (Cheers and disapprobation.) He had invited the inhabitants of Gateshead at large—electors and non-electors—to meet him on his arrival in the borough, that they might hear him state his sentiments, and ask him any questions which they might think proper to put. From that meeting he did not retire until he had answered every question that was proposed. But the hustings was not a proper place on which to be catechized by every stranger who might happen to be in attendance. (Cheers and disapprobation.)

Mr. MASON: Stranger, indeed! Mr. Hutt was the greater stranger of the two. He was more nearly connected than Mr. Hutt with the borough of Gateshead, unless Mr. Hutt thought his possession of an organ in the *Gateshead Observer* (hear, hear,) gave him a superior claim to intimacy of connection. [If Mr. Mason meant anything more than that the *Observer* and Mr. Hutt are in many respects identical in sentiment, he was not justified in his remark. We agree with Mr. Hutt, as with thousands of our fellow-countrymen besides, on certain great political questions, and so far the *Observer* is "the organ of Mr. Hutt"—no farther.] Mr. Hutt (continued Mr. Mason) would go to the House of Commons with the assurance that he did not represent the intelligent, the injured, the suffering masses of the population. Those masses were now sensible of their political degradation. Suffering humanity had awakened to a sense of its rights. (A cry of "Where was your humanity when you blacked your wife's eyes?" and much laughter and disapprobation.) The people were denied the elective franchise—their petitions were dashed aside. The middle classes treated their demands with contumely, and were hurrying forward the day of their own destruction. At all times, they manifested the most utter contempt of the people. (Cries of "No, no!") He was glad that they were at least ashamed of their conduct. Most certainly they had sneered at the working classes on the present occasion; but as they had discovered their error, he was ready to forgive them. (Laughter.) He would call for a show of hands for the Charter. [About one half of the persons present responded to the call.] He hoped that when Mr. Hutt went to Parliament, he would tell the House that the working classes, who, till recently, were not sufficiently enlightened to call for the franchise, now demanded the right to vote in the election of representatives. (Cheers.) Mr. Mason proceeded to make some remarks on the New Poor Law, the Commissioners, the Dietaries, &c.; and then, returning to the question of the suffrage, he said, that if the people were not enfranchised, a revolution was inevitable. The working classes had no desire for a revolution—far from it. They were striving to acquire the means of exercising a peaceful and legitimate influence in the government of their country; and when he spoke of the certainty of a revolution, if that legitimate influence were denied to them, he did not mean to impute any revolutionary desires to his fellow-countrymen, but simply expressed his opinion that the present system must of necessity bring about a fearful revolution, independently of the will of the people. (Mr. M. retired amidst loud cheers.)

The MAYOR having declared Mr. Hutt duly elected to serve in Parliament as the representative of the borough of Gateshead,

Mr. HUTT briefly acknowledged the honour, and proposed a

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vote of thanks to the Worshipful the Mayor, for his courteous and dignified conduct on the hustings.

Mr. Cross seconded the motion, and said, he was sure his brother Chartists would pass it by acclamation. The Mayor had granted Mr. Mason a privilege to which he was not by law entitled, and he called upon the people to give him three cheers. (Three cheers.)

The Mayor returned thanks, and Mr. Cross then invited the people to attend a teetotal meeting in Oakwellgate in the evening: if the people only became a temperate people, they would soon have universal suffrage. (Applause.)

A procession was now formed in Oakwellgate; and Mr. Hutt and his friends, including nearly all the leading electors of the borough, proceeded, with banners and music, through Cannon-street and Church-street, to the Bridge-end—thence through Bottle-bank, High-street, Jackson-street, West-street, Half-Moon-lane, and High-street, to the committee-room at the Grey Horse—being preceded along the whole line of march by a person carrying the flag inscribed "Rippon and Liberty." This, we presume, was a "joke," and paid for by some Tory or Chartist wag.

In the committee-room, Mr. Hutt addressed his friends, expressing his proud satisfaction in having been elected by the unanimous voice of a whole constituency. Nowhere had he been received uncourteously—with hardly a single exception he had been received most favourably. The whole electoral body of Gateshead, it might fairly be said, had declared itself friendly to the financial and commercial measures of Her Majesty's Ministers. He knew of no instance in which a candidate had experienced so universal an acceptance from a numerous constituency; and whilst he thanked the electors of Gateshead for their distinguished confidence, he thanked them with a determination to repay that confidence, so far as he possibly could, with his future services. (Mr. Hutt retired from the room amidst enthusiastic cheering.)

On Wednesday evening, the electors entertained Mr. Hutt at dinner, when a large party assembled in Mr. Freeman's long room, and sat down to a well-spread board.

Mr. Ald. Wilson was in the chair; with Mr. Hutt, Mr. John Cookson, Mr. G. H. Ramsay, J.P., Mr. Ald. Brockett, J.P., and Mr. Joseph Price, on his right; and the Mayor of Gateshead, Capt. J. D. Weatherley, the Town Clerk (Mr. W. Kell), Mr. W. Walker, and Mr. H. L. Pattinson, on his left.

Mr. Ald. Pollock, J.P., filled the vice-chair.—Amongst the company we observed—Messrs. R. P. Philipson, J.P., Joseph Cowen, T. Swinburne, W. Andrew, H. Brady, James Hymers, J. Potts, J. Freeman, C. Rayne, W. E. Brockett, F. Bennett, A. Parker, W. L. Harle, A. Nichol, T. Ramsay, J. Wright, J. Smith, T. Sowerby, William Wylam, F. Glenton, G. T. Gibson, George Straker, W. Rowntree, — Robson, George Sowerby, Joseph Robson, C. J. Pearson, W. Douglas, B. Matchitt, G. Elliott, &c.

The Chairman, when the cloth was removed, and the dessert placed upon the table, gave "The Queen," "Prince Albert and the Princess Royal," and "The Queen Dowager and the rest of the Royal Family," which were duly honoured by the company. Then came "The Army and Navy."

Capt. Weatherley was called upon to rise, and briefly replied on behalf of the Army; after which, there were loud cries of "Mr. Straker, Mr. Straker."

Mr. Straker said, that he was not altogether eligible to stand before them as a representative of the Navy, but perhaps he might be excused in acknowledging the toast, being not only an old sailor himself, but also the offspring of one who had fought the battles of his country. (Applause.) [Mr. S. proceeded to relate one or two of his father's naval adventures, but as we have so many other calls upon us in our present number, we must pass on to "the toast of the evening;" and even the speech of Mr. Hutt, the "P.D." protests to us, must be exposed to an unsparing hydraulic pressure.]

The Chairman said, that the next toast which he had to propose was the health of Mr. Hutt. (Enthusiastic and protracted cheering.) He congratulated this company, and the electors as a body, that they had succeeded in securing the services of so efficient a representative as the late member for Hull. (Applause.) Mr. Hutt, long ago, had done good service to both sides of the Tyne. He had contributed much to the removal of the duty on small coal sent over sea, which was a great boon to the collieries (applause); and now that he was the elected member for Gateshead, there was no doubt that he would be of great service, not only to the borough which had returned him to Parliament, but to Newcastle also. (Applause.) He hoped that Mr. Hutt would long live to represent the constituency with which he was now connected, and that he would be in at the death of many of the monopolies. (Loud cheers.) With these few remarks, he gave—"The health of Mr. Hutt." (Three times three enthusiastic cheers.)

Mr. Hutt, amidst renewed plaudits, rose to acknowledge the toast, and after thanking the company for their great kindness, not only on this, but on previous occasions, observed:—The formation of his political connection with the borough was attended by two circumstances of a deeply interesting character. The first was the prospect which presented itself of a Tory Government. (Hear, hear.) The second—which he contemplated with more satisfaction—was the commencement of a national struggle for an improvement of our commercial policy. For the first event his mind was prepared. He differed from many of his best friends in thinking that if the Ministry had resigned some time ago, it would have been to the advantage of the Liberal cause. Had Lord Melbourne resigned when the Irish Bill was rejected by the Lords with contempt and contumely, the Liberal party would have stood this day in a higher position; and the object at which they aimed—good government—would have been much nearer its accomplishment. The Whig Government had been continually placed in a false position. £92,000 had been voted for the erection of royal stables, while £30,000 had been granted for national education. The contrast must strike the mind of every one. It should be considered, however, that the educational grant was not limited by the will of the Ministers, but by their power. If they could have carried ten times the amount, they would gladly have done it, but it was only by a majority of two votes that they obtained the comparatively small sum of £30,000. The other grant was one of great extravagance, considering all the circumstances of the case. He was not disposed to scan too nicely the expense of the monarchical branch of our institutions, but he did think that the sum of £92,000, for the erection of royal stables, was indefensible; and it was to be lamented that such a grant had been proposed by a Government which depended upon the people for its support. The Tories, however, let the people mark and remember, supported the Whig Administration in their acts of extravagance. In all their errors, the Whigs were sure to receive the support of the Tories. (Hear, hear.) To the return of the latter party to power, he looked with no feelings of depression. There would be an Opposition party in the House of Commons, and in the country, sufficiently strong to restrain them from a course of mischief. Many persons imagined, that if Sir Robert Peel were once entrenched in office, it would be a very difficult task to dislodge him. In that opinion he did not participate. No! the Tories could not long remain in power—not even if they were a much more compact party than they were actually known to be. They were far from being a united party—a rope of sand was no adequate type of their want of cohesion. They were made up of bodies essentially self repellent, and were only agreed as a party in distrusting their leader—who, some fine morning, would find himself deserted by one half of his forces. (Hear, hear.) He had no doubt that some Tory Lord was at that moment elevating himself to the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, and, in imagination, pacifying the people by the sword and the musket; that another Peer, probably at no great distance from Gateshead, was looking forward to the Russian Embassy (hear, hear), and concocting in his mind another Holy Alliance against the liberties of mankind; while a third Tory statesman was resolving to relieve the embarrassments of the nation by the expenditure of several millions of public money in building churches. (Hear, hear.) But these anticipations would end as an idle dream. The Tories would lack the power to carry their wishes into execution. Trusting to what an American President had described as the sober second thoughts of the people, he confidently expected to see, at no distant day, a liberal course of policy supported by a majority in both Houses of Parliament. (Cheers.) Commercial Reform would ultimately be achieved, though not till after many a well-fought field. The debate on the sugar duties had done much to enlighten the country. Its effects had been most salutary. The evil results of monopolies had been made manifest to many minds; and when the country, which stood greatly in need of information, became better acquainted

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with the subject, there would be less division of opinion. Much good had been done by the suicidal folly of the Tories—the direct enemies of slave-emancipation—in affecting to support the sugar duties on the ground of humanity to the negro. Their canting philanthropy had disgusted the country, and they were ashamed of their manœuvre long before the debate terminated. He hoped that England would soon recur to the ancient system of commerce which was the glory of our ancestors. They threw open their harbours and markets to the unrestricted commerce of the world, placing all nations on a footing of perfect equality; and this wise and beneficent principle they had consecrated to all time in the great charter of their liberties. (Cheers.) The wisdom of our ancestors was appealed to in cases wherein their wisdom could little assist us. Why, then, reject it, when it was in every way calculated to instruct and profit the nation? (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, Mr. Hutt, after remarking that it was a good omen that one of the most independent constituencies of the empire had declared for free trade, gave as a toast—"The Electors of Gateshead." (Cheers, and cries of "Mr. Brockett, Mr. Brockett.")

Mr. W. H. Brockett, in acknowledging the compliment, briefly traced the Parliamentary history of Gateshead, from the first proposal to confer upon it the privilege of returning a representative to the House of Commons, to the election of Mr. Hutt. That gentleman, he said, would see, from the past conduct of the electors, that they were not the men lightly to desert a member whom they had once chosen. They had adhered to Mr. Rippon through good report and through evil report—in prosperity and in adversity. At the last general election, Mr. Rippon, bending to the force of circumstances, and actuated by a fine sense of honour, intimated his wish to retire; but he was prevailed upon to forego his determination, and the electors once more returned him to Parliament in triumph. (Applause.) He (Mr. Brockett) looked back upon that election as a proud event in the history of Gateshead; and he had no doubt that it would have been repeated, were it not that it was known, from Mr. Rippon's own declarations, that it was impossible he could again think of offering himself as a candidate for the representation of the borough. Till that circumstance was known, there was no step taken towards a change—no thoughts of being "off with the old love, and on with the new." (Laughter.) He made this statement, not on his own account, but for the justification of the electors generally. He might produce documentary evidence on the subject, but that would be out of place at the social board, and neither did the company require it. There was no one there who did not well know that they had stuck to Mr. Rippon in adverse fortune as in good fortune, and had never meditated a change in the representation of the borough till he himself sanctioned the separation. He (Mr. Brockett) was glad that the place of their late member was so well and adequately supplied. So happy, indeed, was the choice which the electors of Gateshead had made, that other constituencies, to his certain knowledge, envied them their good fortune. (Laughter.) The people of this borough had long desired an opportunity of rendering some acceptable service to their canny neighbours on the opposite side of the Tyne. They had made overtures to take part with them in enlarging the powers of the corporation-dredger, or in slicing-away the sand-banks which reared their heads in the river. (Laughter.) But they had failed in their ambitious efforts to signalize their neighbourly spirit, till now that they had elected a member whom Newcastle coveted, and of whose services in Parliament they offered that borough a liberal participation. (Applause.) Mr. Brockett concluded by proposing—"Her Majesty's Ministers." (Three times three.)

Capt. Weatherley proposed "The Mayor of Gateshead." (Three times three.)

Mr. W. Hymers returned thanks.

Mr. Hutt proposed the healths of his mover and seconder—the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the present festive meeting. (Applause.) They were both of them gentlemen who never stirred out of private or domestic life, except to do a kindness to a neighbour or a service to their country. (Applause.) It was of such men that the woof and weft of a nation's prosperity were constituted, and he felt proud that it was by such men that he had been recommended to the acceptance of the electors of Gateshead. (Applause.) He gave "The healths of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Pollock." (Three times three.)

The Chairman was much gratified at the honour which had been conferred upon his friend and himself, by Mr. Hutt and the company. The principles which he (Mr. Wilson) held at this day, were the principles of his life—he had never known any other. (Applause.) Strange as it might seem, he had reached his 67th year, and yet he had never been "brought out" until the present election. (Great laughter, and a cry of "One cheer more for that!" whereupon the company rose, and gave a tremendous cheer.) He could assure them it was the proudest day in his life, when he nominated Mr. Hutt, and heard the worthy Mayor declare him duly elected. He had the highest opinion of his abilities, and of his fitness to represent the borough in the House of Commons; and in promoting his election, he did feel that he had done some service to his country. (Applause.)

The Vice-Chairman also returned thanks. He could not say, with his friend Mr. Wilson, that he had not been "brought out" until the present election; for he had occasionally officiated as Vice-Chairman—and sometimes even as Chairman; but now that Mr. Wilson had taken the field as a public man, he (Mr. Pollock) clearly foresaw, that he must never hope in future to rise above the dignity of "vice." (Great laughter.) Before he sat down, he would propose a toast which could not fail of experiencing a cordial reception—"The Countess of Strathmore." (Three times three.)

Mr. Hutt responded to the toast, and assured the company that the Countess of Strathmore had taken a warm interest in the present election, and was much delighted when, on Tuesday afternoon, he conveyed to her the intelligence of his return to Parliament for the borough of Gateshead. (Cheers.) He would conclude by proposing "The Ladies of the Borough." (Three times three, and cries of "Mr. Glenton.")

Mr. F. Glenton, on the part of the ladies of Gateshead, acknowledged the compliment.

"The Corporation of Gateshead and the Town Clerk," was acknowledged by Mr. Kell; and "The Corporation of Newcastle," by Mr. Philipson.

Song by Mr. Potts—"My boat is on the shore."

The final close of the poll at South Shields and at Carlisle was here read amidst loud applause, and also the state of the poll at Berwick at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Bennett proposed—"The Law Agents of Mr. Hutt." (Three times three.)

Mr. Swinburne returned thanks. When the heart was with the hand (said he), the heaviest labour was light; and he spoke the sentiments of Mr. Harle when he declared his own, that in this business the heart went warmly with the hand. (Applause.) He congratulated the electors on the respectable position in which the return of Mr. Hutt had placed them. He trusted that the connection now formed with their excellent representative, would long continue, and be alike honourable to Mr. Hutt and to his constituents. (Applause.)

Mr. W. Walker proposed—"The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." (Three times three.)

Song by Mr. Wright, written for the occasion.—Tune, "Scots wha hae."

Mr. Swinburne proposed—"The Lord Lieutenant of the County of Durham"—(cheers)—a nobleman (he observed) who had long stood pre-eminent as a steady supporter of liberal principles, and a munificent friend of charitable institutions. (Three times three.)

Song by Mr. Swinburne—"A man's a man for a' that."

Mr. Hutt, with an appropriate speech, of which we cannot give even an outline, proposed—"The memory of the Earl of Durham." (Drank in silence.)

Mr. W. Wylam gave—"The Liberal Candidates for South Durham." (Three times three.)

Mr. W. L. Harle, as an elector of South Durham, acknowledged the toast, and then proposed—"Mr. Hedworth Lambton and the Independent Electors of North Durham." (Three times three.)

Mr. Hugh Lee Pattinson, in proposing the next toast, wished to observe, in corroboration of what had fallen from Mr. Hutt, that he was travelling in Canada in the past year, and everywhere heard the inhabitants speak of the late Earl of Durham, not merely in terms of approbation, but of enthusiastic praise. (Cheers.) The toast which he had to propose (and respecting which Mr. Pattinson made a few remarks) was "Mr. Ord and the Independent Electors of Newcastle." (Three times three.)

Mr. C. Rayne returned thanks.

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Mr. PHILIPSON proposed—"The health of Lord John Russell." (Three times three.)

"The Liberal Candidates of the Northern Counties and Boroughs," "The Liberty of the Press," and other toasts, were successively proposed, and the company separated.

TO THE ELECTORS OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I offer you my warmest acknowledgments for the elevated position you have this day assigned me, in confiding to me the honourable trust and distinction of representing you in the House of Commons.

To have been called to that office, at this important crisis, by the almost unanimous voice of the Electors of Gateshead, and without any solicitation or contrivance on my part, will always prove a source of the proudest satisfaction to my mind.

I am now your Representative.—I trust that my conduct will never reflect discredit on the highminded and patriotic principles by which you have been distinguished in conducting my Election. I shall go to Parliament proud of possessing your confidence, encouraged by your generous readiness to acknowledge my humble exertions, and animated by the remembrance of your public-spirited example.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient, humble Servant,
Gibside, June 29, 1841. WILLIAM HUTT.

[We have already occupied more of our space with the Newcastle election than we can well spare in this important week; but we must encroach a little further still, to expose the hypocrisy of that Tory demagogue, Mr. John Hodgson Hinde. The operative who bantered him so freely before the nomination, alluded repeatedly to his delicate impeachment of the Whig Government, that they were of "easy virtue;" and truly, Mr. Hinde's "easy virtue" allowed him to be seduced into a miserable exhibition on the Poor Law question. We have been led by his professions to consult the Parliamentary history of the New Poor Law. The second reading was opposed by 20 members only—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! The clause appointing the Commissioners was opposed by 19 members—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! A motion was made in committee to restrict the powers of the Commissioners. 12 members voted for the motion—and Mr. Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! A motion was made to give the guardians greater discretionary power as to out-door relief, for which 41 members voted—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them. A motion was made to give magistrates the power of ordering relief. 26 members voted for the motion—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! A motion to exclude the 69th (or bastardy) clause was supported by 33 members—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! On the third reading of the bill, 50 members voted against the measure—and Mr. John Hodgson Hinde was not one of them! Let these facts be read in connection with Mr. Hinde's professions on the hustings, and the reader must then cordially agree with that hater of "humbug," Mr. Samuel Parker, that "Mr. John Hodgson Hinde is a straightforward, honest man, *and no mistake*!"—ED. G. O.]

The Guardians of the Gateshead Union met on Tuesday last, when a motion for the admission of the Press was made by Mr. Kenmir, and seconded by Mr. Laws. Mr. Joseph Gray met the motion by a direct negative, which was seconded by Mr. John Freeman. On a division, the negative was carried by 13 to 5. For the negative:—Messrs. Joseph Cowen, Joseph Robson, John Freeman, John Potts, Joseph Grey, Henry Sanderson, George Bullerwell, Thomas Gallon, John Nicholson, R. M. Weeks, James Tone, John Mordue, and Joseph Anderson. Against it:—Messrs. William Kenmir, P. J. Main, James Hymers, George Armstrong, and William Laws.—JULY 3.

The Treasurer of the Gateshead Dispensary has received a donation of £1 7s. 6d. from the gentlemen of the Grand Jury at the last quarter sessions.

The Hon. H. T. Liddell addressed the following note to the Chairman of the meeting of June 10, held by the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society:—

SIR,—I have received your letter, which has followed me from London, containing a series of queries on the part of the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society.

Without intending any discourtesy to that Society, I must beg permission to ask whether it numbers among its members any of my constituents, electors of North Durham; and if so, I should be glad to be favoured with their names.

I freely admit the right of the electors to question as they may think proper the candidates for their representation, but I am not prepared to concede the same right to other parties, either collectively or individually; and I therefore have taken the liberty of putting to you the foregoing question. I remain, Sir, with all respect,
Yours faithfully,
Eslington House, June 20. HENRY T. LIDDELL.

Mr. Liddell, we understand, was informed, in reply, that, to the Chairman's own knowledge, the Society *did* "number among its members" some of the electors of North Durham; and the following letter was subsequently received from the hon. gentleman:—

SIR,—On my return home late on Saturday night from Ravensworth Castle, I found your letter of the 23rd. I am very willing to take your word that the Society to which you belong numbers several of my constituents among its members, and I have no further hesitation in answering the question you have put to me on their behalf.

1. I am in favour of the Union of Church and State, and I conceive the State is bound to provide for the religious instruction of the people, according to the principles of the Established Church.

2. Therefore I desire to see an extension of the church-service in proportion to the increase of our population. It must be left to the wisdom of Parliament to determine in what manner the means of this extension are to be provided.

3. I cannot consent to deprive the poor of the benefit of religious assistance because they are confined in workhouses, and therefore the workhouses must be provided with chaplains. When our Lord desired the disciples of St. John to make a faithful report to him of the things which they saw and heard, He concluded with the words—"*The poor* have the gospel preached unto them;" and it would ill become a Christian country to neglect, in any particular, this important characteristic of His holy religion.

4. Church Rates, if not compulsory, must cease to exist: but I am quite open to the consideration of any plans for a just commutation of them.

5. I do not feel myself qualified to give an opinion upon our Ecclesiastical Courts of Law. Perhaps there may be room for improvements in their constitution and practice.

6. I am happy to perceive that the liberation of Mr. Baines relieves me from the necessity of pronouncing an abstract opinion of its propriety. I am, Sir, your obedient and faithful Servant,
Eslington House, June 28, 1841. HENRY T. LIDDELL.

Yes, Mr. Liddell! "the poor had the Gospel preached to them," and preached to them, too, "without money and without price," by our Saviour and his Apostles; but now, an Act of Parliament having settled the question, "What is truth?" the "poor," immediately they are reduced to the workhouse, cease (in the opinion of our Liddell-legislators) to have any claim on the consolations of the parish-priest, and must be ministered unto by a salaried chaplain! salaried, too, out of the pockets of Christians, many of whom believe that he teaches for Divine truth the mistaken "commandments of men." Surely, Mr. Liddell, a poor man does not forfeit his title to the ministrations of the Church, immediately he crosses the threshold of a workhouse! His claim, we should think, is thereby strengthened rather than weakened.

ROTHBURY UNION.—We last week copied the following paragraph from the *Newcastle Journal* of June 19:—

An inquiry was appointed to take place yesterday at Rothbury, before the Poor Law Commissioner and one of his colleagues from London, into a number of very serious charges brought against the Guardians of the Rothbury Union of Parishes. It is said that the defalcations of the late Relieving Officer amount to nearly £400, and that most barefaced and illegal jobbing has been perpetrated by more than one member of the board. We hope to be enabled to present all necessary particulars in our next publication.

On Saturday last, June 26, we consulted the columns of the *Journal*, to ascertain how much of the investigation into the Rector of Rothbury's charges our contemporary had thought it "necessary" to publish. *We did not find one single word on the subject.* Is this honest? The *Journal* has repeatedly made grave charges against the Guardians and their officers, and those charges have been investigated at the instance of the Rector. The charges broke down—the Rector was compelled to abandon them, with a confession of his inability to sustain them. The Commissioner who presided at the inquiry was so completely convinced of the falsity of the accusations, that he would not allow the parties accused to produce their evidence in disproof. Yet the *Journal*, after having so grossly wronged them, is guilty of the further injustice of omitting to state the result of the inquiry! The silence, however, of our contem-

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porary, is expressive. [Since the foregoing was written, we find that the Rector of Rothbury—the *Journal* having deserted him, and the *Courant* and *Chronicle* having published a report of the proceedings of June 18 and 19 coinciding with that of the *Observer*—has addressed a letter to the Editor of the *Chronicle*, of which we insert a copy:—

Whitton Tower, June 29, 1841.

SIR,—I have not thought it necessary to take any notice of the false and absurd statements which have from time to time appeared in the columns of a Gateshead newspaper, on the subject of the Rothbury Union; but a communication, purporting to be a report of an investigation which I have succeeded in procuring, has recently found its way into your respectable journal; and I feel myself bound to inform you, that it is not surpassed in falsehood and absurdity by any other of the articles which have appeared in the newspaper above referred to.

Allow me to request your insertion of this contradiction of the statements which it contains. It would be premature to give a correct account of what occurred at the investigation, before the Commissioners have communicated with the Guardians on the subject.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

C. G. V. HARCOURT.

The statements which we have published we have derived from respectable sources; and the *Newcastle Journal*, which so long defended the Rector of Rothbury, and which promised to report the proceedings of the 18th and 19th ult., broke its pledge to the public, for reasons which the public will not be slow to divine. We, who practise no concealment, publish the Rector's letter, and we will publish also any after-statement which he may choose to make, when the Commissioners have made their report. Whatever else the reverend gentleman may say of the *Gateshead Observer*, he shall not say that it refuses him a hearing.]

"DAILY BREAD."

"Give us day by day our daily bread."—Luke xi. 3.

CREATOR GOD! by whose command
The seas were sever'd from the land,
That man o'er all the earth might spread—
Give us each day our daily bread!

Parent of Good! by whom at first
The world in plenitude was nurs'd,
That man might eat where man might tread—
Give us each day our daily bread!

God of the Seasons! by whose power
Earth still produces herb and flower,
May all the tribes of men be fed—
Give us each day our daily bread!

Great Source of Justice! hear our cause—
Direct the men who make our laws!
May they by righteousness be led!
Give us each day our daily bread!

Summer and harvest never fail,
Let not our enemies prevail
That to undo which thou hast said!
Give us each day our daily bread!

Oh, hear the humble prayer we raise!
Then shall our prayer be turned to praise,
And through our land this song be spread,
"Our God provides our daily bread."

[This hymn was sung at the late anti-corn-law tea-meeting in the theatre of Leicester, the Mayor in the chair.]

At Beamish Park, Durham, on Monday, aged 63, Morton John Davison, Esq., second son of the late Sir John Eden, Bart., and only brother of Sir Robert Johnson Eden, of Windleston, Bart. It is not often we have to record the death of an individual more highly esteemed during life, or more justly lamented at his death. During a residence of 29 years at Beamish Park, he was in the constant exercise of unbounded private charities. To his agents, and to the numerous workmen on his extensive estates, he was a considerate and generous employer; and to his domestics so kind and indulgent a master, that seldom during that period any change took place in his establishment.—JULY 3.

THE MIRACULOUS MINERAL WELL AT JESMOND.—The new spa in Sandyford-lane, which has kept a considerable portion of the people of Newcastle running to and fro for several days, has elicited the following letter from "G."

Newcastle, June 28, 1841.

SIR,—A great sensation has been excited in this town and neighbourhood, within the last few days, by the alleged discovery of a sulphurous spring in Jesmond Dean. I am informed that yesterday hundreds were on the spot at one time, with the purpose of drinking the health-giving waters. To-day, when I visited the place, numbers were striving which should first fill pot or pitcher; and a workman was engaged in cleaning out a basin at the source of the water, which, I presume, it is meant should be covered in. Attracted by the rumours afloat of the medicinal virtues of this spring, I was induced to analyze it; and without giving the particulars of an analysis superfluously minute, I may state, that the sulphuretted hydrogen which it contains is only what may exist in any bilge water; that it contains so few salts that the evaporation of 76 ounces gave a scarcely perceptible residuum, not worthy of being taken into account; that it contains only a minute trace of sulphates of lime and alumina, and the faintest possible quantity of sea-salt; that, in fact, it is utterly worthless and contemptible, and in all probability owes what disagreeable taste it may possess to a connection with the filtrations from the Corporation midden near Brandling-place. On examining the source, I find it to be below the bed of the burn which flows past Mr. Naters' brewery; and that the burn crosses the edges of strata of shale, through which the water may easily penetrate—and being stinking enough, occasion this famous mineral water. In fine, Sir, as there is some talk of erecting a temple to Hygeia on the spot, I think Cloacina would be the preferable Goddess.

Your obedient Servant,

To the Editor of the *Gateshead Observer*. G.

When our readers have perused this letter, let them "drink the waters" with "what appetite they may."

EXPLOSION OF STEAM BOILERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—I am desirous of correcting an error with which my name is connected at the end of your account of the inquest held on the sufferers from a recent steam-boiler explosion in your neighbourhood.

It is quite true that I have been collecting, for some time past, all the facts within my reach, which can throw light on the causes of these lamentable occurrences; but I have no "work forthcoming on the subject," as intimated, nor even one in a state of preparation for the press.

As opinions may have been attributed to me which I do not entertain, or which require modification according to each case, no apology can be necessary for requesting your insertion of the following views of the probable origin of the explosion at Derwent Crook. It must be admitted, too, that it is the bounden duty of every man to contribute whatever knowledge he may possess to diminish the number of these afflicting accidents; and I believe every member of the profession to which I belong equally deplores with myself that such events are possible, and regrets that, either through the imperfection of science, or vicious practice, their recurrence should be so frequent.

These disasters cannot all be referred to one cause, nor will one remedy reach all the diseases of steam boilers, which are sometimes insidious. The rupture and projection of boilers are often accompanied by phenomena very difficult to explain; but it appears to me, from the evidence given on the inquest in question, that the internal state of the boiler, as manifested by the quantity of deposit ejected, is quite sufficient to account for its dislocation. The process by which this result is effected appears to me to be as follows:—When incrustation takes place on the part of a boiler exposed to heat, it very commonly happens that a large piece of it will break up. The water then obtains instant access to an over-heated plate. The consequence is, the sudden production of a mass of steam of an extraordinarily elastic force. The instantaneousness—meaning the infinitely short time—in which this steam is developed, causes it to exert a sudden and powerful action, resembling percussion, upon the adjacent and superincumbent water and steam, which force is transmitted to all parts of the boiler. If the boiler be not strong enough to resist the shock, it is burst through, or rent asunder; and a boiler more than strong enough to resist the ordinary working pressure, may be far below proof against the sudden exertion of such a force as that alluded to. Scarcely any imaginable number of safety valves would suffice to ease a boiler of this momentary pressure, which closely resembles the explosion of gunpowder; and when a boiler is weak, or out of repair, (as testified by leakiness and other symptoms,) or when such a boiler is distended nearly to the bursting point, a very slight *sudden* action, or blow, would disrupt it.

I have referred to a boiler incrusted; but a similar sudden disengagement of steam, in large volume, and of high elasticity, will result on the disturbance of a covering of mud; nor is it requisite that a boiler should be red-hot to generate such steam. A temperature far below redness suffices, so that nothing can be detected from the subsequent appearance of the plates. When a fire is slackened under a boiler, deposition of the suspended earthy matter takes place. It should then be blown out. If not, the mass becomes thickened, (though not, perhaps, indurated); it prevents free access of water to the plates; and an

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outbreak of flame, from even a previously smothered low fire, happening when a boiler is thickly coated with mud, might produce the calamity which occurred at Derwent Crook. Fortunately, all the circumstances rarely occur at one and the same time, or explosions would take place daily.

One phenomena almost always accompanies steam-boiler explosions, viz., suddenness. Warning is rarely given—and if so, too short for safety; and it has seemed to me reasonable to conclude, that a sudden and violent effect can only be produced by a sudden and violent cause. Doubtless, a vessel may be ruptured by a continuous and increasing pressure, exceeding the resisting strength of the vessel, or of any part of it; and steam and water will be expelled, scalding and injuring persons within reach. But such is not the character of violent explosions. Instances are common of the solid boiler plate being torn, and even slit all round, as clean and true as if done by the chisel or shears, and masses of enormous weight have been projected to a great height or distance. These results have occurred when the simple pressure of the steam, immediately previous, was known, and must be acknowledged to have been far inadequate to the effect.

Instances (two, I think,) have occurred in your neighbourhood, in which boilers have been burst by boys swaying up and down on a valve lever, when steam was blowing off—an action which would give repeated shocks to the boiler, as is proved by the mercury of steam-guages having been all expelled on suddenly closing a safety valve. Explosions have also taken place when steam is suddenly let upon a piston to start an engine.

Following out this idea, my friend Dr. Charles Schafhateul, a learned chemist, and practically well acquainted with steam-boilers, has illustrated the action of an instantaneously-developed force in a very ingenious manner. He places a cylinder, open at both ends, vertically, and applies a valve of the same area both to the top and bottom, which will rise with the force of an ounce weight. Water is then poured in, to the depth of about one-half the cylinder, the weight of which on the bottom valve is balanced. On dropping into the water a small piece of the chloride of potassium, an explosion ensues, which opens the bottom valve, and expels water, before it lifts the upper valve, where the gas escapes. The same occurs when a small quantity of gunpowder is fired below the water; and it matters not whether the explosion takes place close beneath the surface of the water, or nearer the bottom—in every case, the force is propagated more quickly to the bottom than to the top. He, therefore, concludes, that, on the production of a sudden and extraordinary force within a boiler, the bottom would be attacked, and perhaps yield, before relief could be obtained by the safety valves.

I am able to confirm the correctness of this inference from my own experience. I have seen the bottom of iron salt pans, when heated red-hot by the adhesion of scale and salt, forced downwards, and much twisted, when the scale has been broken, and the brine came upon the metal; but I never saw flame, or any indication of an inflammable gas. An immense body of brine and steam is projected upwards on these occasions, with which every salt-maker is well acquainted; and if the pan were covered instead of being open, I am satisfied that its bottom, or top, would give way, before an equilibrium of pressure could take place, or safety valves afford relief. The effect thus *visibly* produced in open vessels, under no pressure, may equally occur, *unseen*, and with disastrous energy, in close boilers.

This reasoning applies to the case in question, and to boilers similarly circumstanced; but I wish to guard against its being understood as illustrating all cases of explosion. I have witnessed several, investigated many, and have had other instances communicated to me—some of them by Mr. Douglas—the causes of which are more obscure, and require a different solution. There are, however, a few facts which I consider to be so well established, of general application, and of such importance, that they cannot be too widely made known, particularly in the coal-districts.

I believe I am in possession of every case of explosion which has taken place in Cornwall during the last 30 years, where the highest pressures in Britain are used. They do not exceed 6 or 8; and it consists with my own knowledge, that more disasters have occurred to boilers, and more human lives have been sacrificed, during the present year, in each of the respective districts round Newcastle, and Wednesbury, than in Cornwall during the whole of the above period. In Cornwall, too, mineral water, of a very deleterious quality, is generally obliged to be used. This relative security has arisen from the combination of two causes:—1. The price of coals. 2. The form of boiler.

The high price of fuel has induced in Cornwall a system of careful management, which can scarcely be surpassed, and an economy in the generation of steam, unequalled—resulting, chiefly, from the large extent of surface exposed to absorb the heat, and from the slow combustion of the fuel. By reason of the form of boiler, all the sediment settles upon the part exposed to the least heat—to a temperature, in fact, very far below that of flame. The cylindric figure and small diameter of these boilers, render them well adapted to resist the force of from 40 to 60 lbs. per square inch, commonly employed.

In the coal-districts, on the contrary, the opposite qualities will be found to prevail. Fuel is cheap—its use unrestricted; boilers are of disproportionate dimensions for the engine, as regards surface; and though generally cylindric, the fire is made beneath them, and all the sediment is compelled to fall precisely on the part exposed to the most intense heat. The firemen are not encouraged to raise steam with the least possible consumption of fuel; they are supplied with it *ad libitum*; and he is reputed the best man who can squeeze the most steam out of the least possible quantity of boiler-surface.

Explosions are the consequence. The fault is not in the fireman, nor in the boiler-maker, nor in the engineer: it is in the system. The engineer would advise an abundant boiler-surface, and one boiler always out of work at every establishment, to insure frequent and perfect cleansing; the boiler-maker would be glad to make boilers in any number, and of any form; the fireman may be instructed and encouraged to act with vigilance and skill—and the owner would find his account in it; for, though he may have cheap coals, he may raise dear steam, from waste of fuel, and wear and tear of boilers.

Let the system be changed, and explosions would be diminished 99 per cent. The occupation of the philosopher would be gone, except in considering and providing against some of those occasional accidents which, from their rarity, and the phenomena attending them, denote special causes to have operated.

It is well that the wisdom of our ancestors has transmitted to us the noble institution of the Coroner's Inquest, based on the sentiment that every man is the property of his countrymen, and that a sudden deprivation of life should be accounted for. It is, however, a very imperfect tribunal as initiatory of proceedings in criminal judicature—particularly in cases of a debateable nature, like steam-boiler explosions. I am cognizant of the fact of a Lancashire lad (and a better lad never lived, as was proved by his coming out of jail as pure as he went in,) having been sent to Lancaster jail for six months, for carelessness. The story would be too long to tell, but he was as innocent as a babe of the neglect imputed to him. The accident happened from causes over which he could exercise no control. Enginemen and firemen are often blamed (perhaps discharged) by their masters, when they have committed no fault whatever: they are too frequently made a kind of scapegoat for ill-conditioned apparatus, or a defective system; and if their lives are not sacrificed, they, too frequently, lose their bread.

A sentiment of humanity alone should actuate the owner of boilers to adopt that system which experience has approved as the least dangerous; and "wisdom for a man's self," commonly called *self-interest*, fortunately combines to quicken the stimulus. I consider it to be in the power of every master so nearly to insure his property, and people, from destruction, by the use of good boilers—of the well-known apparatus for their management—and by the choice of sober and skilful attendants, that, if universally adopted, explosions would become matters of history, and cease to be a blot on the page of engineering science. Cases of reckless carelessness in engine or fire men are very rare. These people set as great value on their lives as their masters do, and very little need be left at the peril of negligence.

This letter is already too long, but it would be an omission not to add, that the choice of iron is most important in the construction of a safe boiler. The so-called *improvements* in the manufacture of iron, appear not to have improved its quality for boiler uses. I am of opinion that rolled iron is quite unfit for the parts of a boiler exposed to the furnace and flame. Its character becomes changed by heat, and after a time it will

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no longer resist the same tensile strain as at first. It may not be generally known, that tilted plates alone can be used for salt-pans, in making fine salt, which requires rapid ebullition. The plates over the fires are very frequently heated red-hot, and become, from expansion and contraction, twisted and bent into most irregular shapes; but, after years of severe use, the *nature* of the iron is as good as when received from the hammer. Cut-out plates are used by the pansmiths to make rivets and nails. Rolled plates are soon *burnt*, and rendered useless; and when cut out of the pans, are good for nothing. A friend of mine in Staffordshire, an iron-master, has boilers now in action, of the haystack shape, 30 years old, which have cost but little in repairs. The bottoms of all his boilers are of hammered iron. Each boiler is worked but a week, and then thoroughly cleansed. This gentleman has cheap coals (2s. per ton): he has also cheap boilers and cheap steam. No such thing as a rupture, or explosion, has ever occurred in his numerous establishments.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,
JOSIAH PARKES.

12, Great College-street, Westminster, 18th June, 1841.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM AND THE TORIES.

THE Bishop of Durham was lately favoured with a letter from the committee of Mr. Farrer, of which the following is a copy:—

Mr. Farrer's Committee Room, Bishop Auckland, June 28, 1841.

MY LORD,—Considering the principles and position of your lordship, we cannot expect to receive your lordship's support; but as there are certain reports in circulation, will your lordship have the kindness to inform us whether, in canvassing your tenants and dependants, we are at liberty to say that they may vote according to their own unbiassed opinions.

We hope your lordship will excuse our trespassing upon your lordship's time; but we have thought we could not do otherwise, either in justice to your lordship, or to the cause in which we are deeply interested.

I have the honour to be, on behalf of Mr. Farrer's committee, your lordship's very obedient humble servant,

The Lord Bishop of Durham. WILLIAM HODGSON, Chairman.

His Lordship promptly and nobly replied. His letter draws the line between legitimate and illegitimate influence with admirable truth and justice, and we have much pleasure in placing it on record in our columns:—

Auckland Castle, June 28, 1841.

SIR,—In reply to the letter which you have sent me, as chairman of Mr. Farrer's committee, I beg leave to inform you that I never have considered myself at liberty to constrain any tenant or dependant to vote in a way opposed to his unbiassed opinions. But you are well aware that, in many instances, such persons have had but little opportunity of forming a correct judgment of what is passing in parliament; and that various arts are resorted to, in order to conceal from them the true character of public men, and the real spirit of public measures. Under these circumstances, it continually happens that they are disposed to lean upon the opinions of those with whom they are connected, and who may be far more familiar with the arguments upon which public measures are defended or opposed.

If any of my friends or tenants desire to learn my sentiments or consult my wishes, I am anxious they should know that, having studied the character and witnessed the measures of her Majesty's present government, I am decidedly of opinion, that they have at once the ability and the will to promote the public good. My warmest wishes, therefore, are for the success of all such candidates as profess themselves friendly to this government. And in the contest which unhappily has arisen in this neighbourhood, any support which I can give with propriety, must be at the service of Mr. Bowes and Lord Harry Vane.

If, after this frank avowal of my own sentiments, any application should be made to any of my tenants, I may express a hope that the whole of what I have stated, and not a part only, may be communicated to them. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
E. DUNELM.

William Hodgson, Esq., Chairman of Mr. Farrer's Committee.

The date of this letter, it will be seen, is June 28; yet, on the 5th of July—one full week after it was received by the Tory committee—a handbill, bearing the signature of Lord Seaham, son of the Marquis of Londonderry, was published in South Durham, of which the following is a copy:—

Wynyard Park, July 5, 1841.

Mr. Bayley, solicitor, of Stockton, having presumed to circulate letters stating that the Bishop of Durham and Dean of Durham, he believes, are both for the Liberal candidates, the friends of Mr. Farrer are warned against such unjustifiable attempts, as the Chapter collectively support Mr. Farrer, and neither the Bishop or the Dean have taken any part.

SEAHAM.

To the Tenantry in the Neighbourhood of Wynyard Park.

We will not ask our readers what *they* think of this precious specimen of imposition, impertinence, and ignorance: it will be sufficient to state what the *Tories* think of it—and that may be inferred from the fact that the handbill, as far as possible, has been suppressed. Like another famous literary production of the Londonderry family, it has been endorsed—"Too bad!"

The *Durham Chronicle*, which we have received since the foregoing was put into type, informs us that an apology has been made to Mr. Bayley.

We have seen (says our contemporary) what the Bishop has done; and we may now add (what we have reason to know to be the fact), that the Dean of Durham has written to Mr. Bowes, assuring him of his best wishes for his success, and declaring that if the Chapter attempt to coerce any voters under their influence, he, as Dean, will protect them in voting according to their consciences. We thank Lord Seaham for affording us an opportunity of making this statement.

EXECUTION AND RESUSCITATION.

JOHN WHITE, convicted of the murder of Messrs. Gwatkin and Glenn, on board a flat boat on the Ohio river, was executed at Louisville, United States, on the 8th June, a little after six o'clock in the morning. The rope not "playing" well occasioned the knot to slip over the chin instead of being under his ear, so that his neck was not broken by the fall. He was cut down after hanging 25 minutes, and his body given to the doctors for the purposes of experiment. The *Louisville City Gazette* gives the annexed extraordinary circumstances attending an experiment with the galvanic battery:—"The poles of a powerful galvanic pile, which had been prepared for the occasion, were immediately applied to him. On the first application of the fluid to his body, which was yet warm and trembling, a universal tremor was seen to pass over his frame. On a sudden he arose from his bench to a sitting posture, and with great eagerness and impatience raised his hand to his neck, trying to grasp the scarf in his fingers and tear it from his throat! He first snatched at it with great rashness, as though the rope was yet around his neck, and then continued some moments picking at the seam with his fingers, as though it was something that adhered to his throat giving him great uneasiness. But this symptom was soon forgotten, for almost the next moment he rose upon his feet, raised his arms level with his breast, and opening his bloodshet eyes, gave forth from his mouth a most terrific screech, after which his chest worked as if in respiration in a very violent manner. Every one at this minute was as mute as death, when one of the surgeons exclaimed that he was alive. The excitement was too great to allow time for a reply to the remark: every eye was riveted upon the agitated and shaking corpse. The operator continued to let upon it a full quantum of the galvanic fluid, till the action upon its nerves became so powerful that it made a tremendous bound, leaping by a sort of imperfect plunge into a corner of the room, disengaging itself entirely from the wires which communicated the galvanism. All immediately drew around the body. For a moment after its fall it seemed perfectly motionless and dead. A surgeon approached, and, taking hold of his arm, announced that he thought he felt a slight though a single beat of the pulse. The galvanic operator was just going to arrange his machine to give him another charge, when the surgeon exclaimed that he breathed. At this moment he gave a long gasp, rising and gently waving his right hand. His sighs continued for two minutes, when they ceased entirely. His whole frame seemed to be agitated, his chest heaved, and his legs trembled. A piece of broken looking-glass was held before his nostrils, which was instantly covered with a cloud. The most intense anxiety was felt for some seconds, when the motion of the chest, as in the act of respiration, became visible. He rolled his eyes wildly in their sockets, occasionally closing them, and giving most terrific scowls. In about five minutes his breathing became tolerably frequent—probably he would give one breath where a healthy man would give four. His breathing, however, rapidly increased. The doctors began to speak to him, but he gave no indications that he heard a word. He looked upon the scene around him with the most deathlike indifference. A young medical student approached him, and taking hold of his arm and shoulder, White rose upon his feet, took two steps thus supported, and seated himself in an arm chair. His muscles seemed to relax, and he appeared somewhat overcome with the exertion he had made. A bottle of hartshorn was immediately applied to his nose, which revived him, but his life seemed to be that of a man much intoxicated. He seemed upon one occasion to try

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to give utterance to some feeling, but he was unable. His system was critically examined, and, though he was pronounced by the doctors to be perfectly alive, yet he could live but a very few minutes, for congestion of the brain was rapidly taking place. Every method was adopted to equalize the circulation, and save the patient from the catastrophe, but in vain. The blood-vessels of the head were enormously distended, and his eyes appeared to be balls of clotted blood. His system was immediately thrown into direful spasms, and he died in a few minutes in the most excruciating agonies."

GATESHEAD BRITISH SCHOOL.

THE First Annual Meeting of the Subscribers and Friends was held in the School Room, Barn Close, on Thursday, the 8th inst., (W. H. BROCKETT, Esq., J.P., in the Chair,) when the following Resolutions were unanimously passed:—

Moved by Mr. Robert Pratt,
Seconded by Mr. James Potts,

That the Report and Treasurer's Account, now read, be received and passed.

Moved by the Rev. Alexander Reid,
Seconded by Mr. Jonathan Siddle,

That the utility of the British System, as evidenced by the Examination of this School to-day, was exceedingly gratifying, and reflects great credit on the talent and assiduity of the Teacher, Mr. John Parker.

Moved by Mr. J. R. Wilson,
Seconded by Mr. W. Rowntree,

That the present state of this country calls loudly on every true patriot to aid in the promotion of education on a liberal basis; and conceiving the British System to be so constituted, this meeting pledges itself to do all in its power to further the Gateshead British Schools.

Moved by Mr. J. T. Angus,
Seconded by Mr. Robert Craggs,

That the following be appointed the Committee of the ensuing year:—Wm. Hutt, Esq., M.P., President; W. H. Brockett, Esq., Vice President; Mr. R. H. Haggie, Treasurer; Mr. R. Pratt, Secretary; and Messrs. Thomas Swinburne, James Clephan, William Smith, Henry Walker, William Rowntree, Charles I'Anson, C. A. Windeatt, George Heppell, Joseph T. Angus, Richard Garlick, R. Craggs, and B. Matchitt.

W. H. BROCKETT, Chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to the Chairman, on the motion of Mr. David Haggie, seconded by Mr. J. R. Wilson.

☞ Donations and Subscriptions will be received by any of the Committee; also at the *Observer* Office, Gateshead.

Gateshead, July 9, 1841.

The friends of the Gateshead British School were highly gratified on Thursday last by a public examination of the scholars, and by the striking evidences it afforded, not only of the proficiency of the boys, but of the excellent management and great ability of their master, Mr. Parker. The school was opened the 31st August, 1840—since which time 410 boys have been admitted—350 of whom have attended various Sabbath schools, and the remaining 60 the Established Church and other places of worship. The average number at present attending is about 200:—there were 160 present at the examination. In the afternoon the supporters of the school had tea together; and in the evening a public meeting was held in the school-room, (Mr. W. H. Brockett, J.P., in the chair,) when a report was read, and resolutions were passed appropriate to the objects of the meeting, after addresses by Mr. R. H. Haggie, Mr. James Potts, Rev. A. Reid, Mr. Siddle, Mr. Joseph Angus, Mr. Craggs, Mr. Rowntree, Mr. Pratt, Mr. J. R. Wilson, &c. The treasurer's account was also read, showing an expenditure of £155 9s. 8d., in fitting up the school, rent, master's and mistress's salary, &c., and an income of only £120 9s. 6d., thus leaving £35 0s. 2d. due the treasurer—a debt which, we trust, the public of Gateshead will take immediate steps to discharge. Mr. Haggie was (very properly) thanked for the great pains he had taken in the formation of this school, which, being "open to all and influenced by none," is in every respect deserving of the support of persons of all denominations. The officers and committee were then elected, and the meeting separated, after voting thanks to the Chairman.

Colonel Maberly has addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce:—

General Post Office, 7th July, 1841.

SIR,—Having submitted to the Postmaster-General your letter of the 24th ult., enclosing the memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, I am commanded to inform you, that his lordship cannot sanction the proposition therein contained without the authority of the Treasury, and that he much questions whether that department will incur such a large expense as the establishment of the day-mail alluded to must necessarily occasion.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,
W. L. MABERLY.

Thomas Grieveson, Esq., Newcastle.

The Chamber of Commerce will meet next week, to take this letter into consideration. We have no doubt that they will be able to prove to Lord Lichfield that there will be a *gain*, instead of a *loss*, in sending the mail by way of Newcastle, instead of by Carlisle.

The annual meeting (the twelfth) of the Tyne Insurance for Goods Association, was held on Thursday last, at the Three Indian Kings, Quayside, Newcastle, when a most satisfactory account of the past year's transactions was presented—a return of 9s. 1d. on 10s., 13s. 8d. on 15s., and 18s. 2d. on 20s. per cent. premium, having been made to the members for the past year. The average return, from the commencement of the association until the present time, has been just two-thirds of the whole premium—a valuable testimony to the character of the vessels employed in the goods-trade of the Tyne. After the meeting, the members (Thomas Wilson, Esq., Chairman, and R. C. Bradshaw, the Secretary, Vice,) sat down, according to custom, to an excellent and sumptuous dinner—one, indeed, in Mr. Webb's best style—and which was partaken of by the company in the spirit of old English conviviality.—JULY 10.

The census of 1841 gives the following results in the borough of Gateshead:—

Houses occupied	3,290
Houses unoccupied	164
Houses building	41
Total number of houses	3,495

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Inmates of the workhouse	44	35	79
Inmates of Benaham lunatic asylum	43	26	69
Inmates of Gateshead Fell ditto	52	40	92
Inmates of Wrekenton ditto	22	18	40
Other inhabitants	9,409	9,816	19,225
Total number of inhabitants	9,570	9,935	19,505

In 1831, there were 2,317 occupied houses in Gateshead, 77 unoccupied, and 43 building; and the number of inhabitants was 15,177, of whom 7291 were males, and 7,866 females.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms was held on Monday last, in the Gateshead Arms, for the purpose of electing the officers for the ensuing year, when the following was the result of the election:—Thomas Wilson, Esq., President and Treasurer; Mr. Thomas Ferguson, Secretary; and Messrs. Thomas Sowerby, James Smith, and W. H. Brockett, Committee. The building, we are happy to announce, is progressing rapidly towards completion, but we lament, at the same time, to have to admit that some little funds are still wanting to meet the deficiency of this undertaking. Do not—good neighbours of Gateshead—let us have to say this again!—JULY 10.

The quarterly meeting of the General Committee of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, was held in the Trinity Hall, on Tuesday last, (George Straker, Esq., in the chair,) when letters were read from Sir James Duke, M.P., acknowledging the honour which the Society had conferred upon him in electing him the London Representative of the Society, and from Mr. Oviatt, the Secretary of the London Society, in reply to the announcement of Sir James Duke's election, and expressing the satisfaction that would be derived from Sir J.'s co-operation. Several copies of the General Shipowners' Society's Report were laid on the table, and distributed; and a communication from the Liverpool Registration Society, respecting the new "Book" for the Registry of Shipping, was also read, and a committee appointed to examine the rules, &c., and to report thereon to a special general meeting of the Society, to be held for the purpose on the 1st of August. The Hon. Secretary reported that he would soon be ready to report the result of his investigations respecting the piers-duties on coals shipped from the port of Newcastle. He

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had found that the Whitby pier-duty had been rendered perpetual by the last Act—a circumstance which largely proved the injury which had been done to the shipping and commerce of the Tyne, in the absence of that watchfulness which the present Society, he trusted, would be able to supply.

The Committee of the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society met on Wednesday evening, (the Rev. J. M'Alister in the chair,) when it was stated that in addition to the letters previously read from Messrs. Hinde and Ord, letters had been received from Messrs. Hutt, Bell, Liddell, and Ogle, but that no reply had come from Mr. Hedworth Lambton. A sub-committee was formed to prepare an address on the duties of the friends of religious liberty in the present times.

THE REIGN OF CORRUPTION, AND THE REMEDY; OR, AN APPEAL TO THE PEERS—*NOT* AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE. IN A LETTER TO LORD HOWICK,

BY THE HERMIT OF JESUS' MOUNT.

"For Christ, the Queen, and my Country."

"HISTORY," my Lord, "is Philosophy teaching by examples;" and if the value of history is to be estimated by the importance of the lessons it conveys, a more valuable passage, I will venture to say, is not to be found in its whole volume, than is afforded by the history of the late election—an election, my Lord, alike important in its origin, its progress, and in its issue. But, as the divines say, of each of these in particular.

I need not tell your Lordship, *how* the late election had its origin, namely, in a series of measures, proposed by her Majesty's Ministers, the most beneficial and the most enlightened, in point of commercial policy, that ever were laid before any deliberative assembly by any government in this or any other country. But this is a topic that your Lordship has dilated on with such consummate ability in your very luminous speech *before* the election, that it were but as holding a candle to the sun were I to attempt to follow you in that line of argument. There are one or two points, however, which I may be permitted to suggest on the policy of her Majesty's government, with respect to the Poor Laws and the Post Office in particular, which have perhaps escaped your notice. All things do not strike all minds alike; and even the most comprehensive mind cannot grasp all, nor the most eloquent tongue express all that may be said on any one subject.

I am told, my Lord, with what truth I know not, that there *was* a time in which your venerable father was obliged to apologize for your Lordship—then a child—as not being able to return thanks on some public occasion, when your health was proposed in connection with his own. He then said, I am informed, something to this effect—"Gentlemen, you must excuse him. He cannot speak now, but the time may come, when he *will* be able to say something for himself." My Lord, that period has arrived; and it must be acknowledged by all who have ears to hear, and judgment to discern, apart from prejudice at least, that you have at length said something to the purpose.

But, my Lord, in commending your purposes, I have almost forgotten my own—to say something about the Poor Law and the Post Office in particular; and the first thing I would say is this—that a greater boon was never conferred on an intelligent people than the opening of the Post Office to the poor, and the closing it to the privileged few, who had no need of such an indulgence. Of all taxes, my Lord, the worst is a tax upon knowledge, (and all taxes on communication are, in fact, taxes on knowledge); and of all the modes of taxation the most odious is that which operates to the prejudice of the poor by the exemption of the rich. Such were those taxes which produced the French Revolution—oppressive in their nature, because partial in their operation.

Turning to the Poor Law, my Lord, I cannot sufficiently admire the discernment of those who have discovered such mighty defects in the new Poor Law on account of the separation of husband and wife—a separation, by the way, which I am far from advocating on its own merits—but still, my Lord, I cannot but wonder at the wisdom of those who have discovered, with eagle eye, this defect in the *new* Poor Law, and yet, like bats or owls, have been totally blind to the very same defect in certain other parts of the *old* system. In the army, for instance, I believe, that about six women are allowed to one company, consisting of eighty men; and in the navy I apprehend, that not one woman is admitted in a whole ship's crew. Now let it be remembered, my Lord, that these men were torn from their homes in the first instance, perhaps, by a reckless press-gang: or seduced into the service by ensnaring oaths, and then bereft of all the comforts of domestic life for no fault of their own. Let this be remembered; and then let the enemies of the new Poor Law inform us, on what principle it is, that they advocate a *total* divorce under the *old* system, and reprobate a *temporary* separation under the *new*. Yes, my Lord, let them tell us, on what principle it is that they preach up the "poor man's church," and yet justify a poor man's being dragged from the embraces of his agonized wife in the very hour of her emphatical sorrow, and shut up *seven months* in a prison, because he cannot conscientiously contribute toward the expenses, the enormous expenses, of this "POOR MAN'S CHURCH."

Such, my Lord, as I have said, was the origin of the present election. It originated in a series of the most salutary measures, not excepting the Poor Law itself, which were ever proposed to Parliament, but which met with such a factious opposition as made it absolutely necessary for the Ministers of the Crown to dissolve the Parliament in order to take the sense of the people. The PEOPLE, did I say—I retract that expression—I mean the sense of the PEERS on the subjects at issue. For as the election originated in factious opposition; as it began in party spirit; so it has been carried on by a system of intimidation, corruption, and organized mendacity, such as this country never witnessed, nor, I will be bound to say, any other, either POPISH or PAGAN, since the beginning of the world. Lord Stanley had given us notice, indeed, that we might calculate on the result, in the counties at least, by reckoning up the noble lords resident therein, and taking a due admeasurement of their several estates. But it was left for a noble duke, and for his two noble coadjutors in these two counties, to convince us, how tenants may be driven to the POLL like a herd of black cattle, or a flock of black-faced sheep, to the MARKET.

When shall WE THREE meet again,
In thunder, lightning, and in rain;
When the hurly burly's done,
When the battle 's *lost* and *won*.

Lost in Northumberland, perchance, but gained in Newcastle. Yes, my Lord, that honour, which has been repudiated by them in the county, may be reserved, perhaps, for us in the town—viz., to return to Parliament the heir of him who has been emphatically styled "the Father of Reform." Then shall that statue, which stands in our streets to the honour of the sire, look down with satisfaction on the success of the son. Else would it frown upon us to our eternal disgrace, and reproach us for ever with our inconsistency in rejecting a son in every way worthy of such a father. Let me add, my Lord, that I trust you yourself will also stand a monument, a *living* memorial of the late Lord Durham—an heir of his virtues, and an heir of his independence—an advocate, not unworthy of so great a cause, to plead as he did, perhaps, but not, I hope, amidst obloquy, scandal, and the most unmerited neglect, for an extended suffrage, shorter parliaments, but, above all, for the vote by ballot. It is easy, my Lord, to contend with our enemies, but it is hard, indeed, which has been my fortune, as well as his, to fight with our friends. Lord Durham could sustain the attacks—the most malignant attacks of party rancour—but

Ingratitude more strong than traitors' arms
Quite vanquished him.

He fell a victim, my Lord, to his own sensibilities.

Such are the evils we have to contend with. We now apply ourselves to the remedy. That remedy, as I have already hinted, is to be found in the Ballot. Yes, my Lord, I repeat what I have said on some other occasion, that the BALLOT, the BALLOT, and *nothing but* the BALLOT will exclude the influence of the Clergy and Aristocracy from the election of members of Parliament. If one lady, as has been reported, can send down three thousand pounds to the Canterbury election, who knows but another, equally liberal perhaps, some dowager for instance with the moderate income—by way of public annuity—of one hundred thousand a-year—who knows, I say, but *she* may be able also to spare some twenty or thirty thousand pounds for Newcastle. Methinks I hear some one exclaim "The Constitution forbid," that glorious Constitution, forsooth, in Church

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and State, which *does* forbid indeed the interference of Peer, and of Princes in the election of members of Parliament, but however loud its voice may be on other subjects, on this it is a dead letter—a voice and no more—"Vox et preterea nihil."

Granting however, says one, that the Ballot would be an effectual remedy for the evils occurrent, how shall we obtain it, seeing it would be in vain to ask it of the BISHOPS. My Lord, I will tell you, though I have hinted it to your agent before, and, "had he hearkened unto me, you would never have come to this loss and damage." You would have *demanded* the Ballot in Northumberland, and obtained a rule too, as against the High Sheriff, to show cause, if it had not been granted. There is nothing in the Reform Act against it: on the contrary, there is much in its favour. *That* Act provides, that all elections shall be conducted according to custom, EXCEPTING—and it is an important exception—where such usage is at variance with *any* of the provisions of the said Act. Now, my Lord, I submit, that the usage of open voting, as has been fully demonstrated by the Northumberland election, is not only inconsistent, but absolutely incompatible, with that section of the Reform Act, which gives a right of voting to £50 tenants at will in counties, and £10 householders in towns. My Lord, you have had a lesson, a severe one it may be in Northumberland, and a word is enough for the wise. Let not the same lesson I beseech you be repeated, if occasion should serve, in Newcastle. GOD IS WITH US. Amen.

NOTE.—Our next will contain an analysis of the Yorkshire election, in a letter to Lord Morpeth.

REGISTER!

THE GATESHEAD REFORM SOCIETY earnestly entreat the attention of all Friends of Liberal Principles to the Information given below.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE—AND HOW TO AVOID DISFRANCHISEMENT.

BY the English Reform Act, the right to be registered as a voter in the election of members to serve in Parliament for cities and boroughs, is given to every male person of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity, who shall occupy as owner or tenant any house, warehouse, counting-house, shop or other building of the clear yearly value of £10; but the occupation must be for a year ending on the 31st of July, and such person must be rated or have claimed to be rated in all rates (if any) made for the relief of the poor during that period, and have paid by the 20th of July his poor's-rate and window-tax payable previously to the 6th of April, and have resided (slept) within seven miles, for six months. Joint-occupiers are entitled, if the yearly value give £10 for each occupier.

Persons, although lodgers, who use a part of their premises (even an attic, kitchen, or cellar,) as a shop, workshop, warehouse, store-room, or counting-house, if worth 4s. a week, or £10 a year; are entitled to vote. Any lodger who pays this amount of rent has also the right, if his landlord do not sleep on the premises, or if the lodger have a separate entrance or the controul of an outer-door, or occupy a separate building. It is only necessary in all these cases that the lodgers should require an overseer to put their names on the poor's-rate book (either separately or in conjunction with the landlord) and any payment afterwards made by them may be deducted from the rent, as the landlord will, in consequence of such claim to be rated, cease to be called upon for rates, or will pay proportionally less. Where a man rents a house, and the parish officers have rated the landlord, the tenant if occupying will be entitled to vote after he has claimed to be rated, or has got his own name put on the poor's-rate. It is not necessary to be rated at £10, if the premises be worth that sum annually. Every tenant, although a lodger, who is liable to a yearly rent of £50, is entitled to vote for the county, if the premises occupied by him do not confer a vote for a city or borough; and in this case it is not necessary to be rated.

The 6th day of April.—To avoid the disfranchisement of electors in cities and boroughs, all the poor's rates and window-tax (if any) payable from them in respect of their premises, previously to the 6th day of April, must be paid on or before the 20th of July. The window-tax is payable by act of parliament, whether demanded or not. The poor's rate is not payable till demanded; so that it is not necessary, in order to be registered, for the £10 voter, entitled under the Reform Act, to pay any poor's rate, if it were not demanded previously to the 6th of April, either personally to the voter, or by note in writing left on his premises by the collector. No man should, however, omit to pay his poor's rate because it has not been demanded, as the collectors may think they have called when they have not done so, and for fear of ultimate neglect, the poor's rate and window-tax should be paid immediately. In some parishes there is a local act, whereby the poor's rate is payable before a demand is made.

The 20th day of July.—Parliamentary electors in cities and boroughs entitled under the Reform Act, will lose their votes for the next year, unless they pay on or before the 20th of July all the poor's rates (and window tax if any) payable from them in respect of their premises, previously to the 6th of April. The payment of no other rate or tax is required for the exercise of this franchise. County voters must send in their claims on or before the 20th of July.

The 31st of July.—Scot and lot voters will be disfranchised, unless they pay on or before the 31st of July, all the poor's rates payable from them previously to that day. They need not, for the purpose of registration, pay the window tax, or any other rate or tax than the poor's rate.

Beginning of August.—The lists of voters are made out on or before the 31st of July, and may be seen gratis at the overseers' houses 14 days afterwards, and on the church and chapel doors on the two next Sundays, and may be purchased at a reasonable price. Persons improperly omitted, or inserted, must claim, or be objected to, on or before the 25th of August. Overseers can object to county voters, by inserting the words "objected to" without giving notice to the party, and may omit the names of any persons from the lists for cities and boroughs also, without giving notice, so that it behoves all voters annually to inspect the lists, and to observe if the particulars be correctly described.

In case an elector has removed since the last registration but continues to occupy premises in the same city or borough, he is still entitled to the franchise, under the 28th section of the Reform Act, which enables persons occupying different premises in succession to be registered. In this case, to secure the vote, the party must claim to be registered in the parish to which he has removed, if the overseers of that parish have not already inserted his name.

All persons omitted by reason of the non-payment of poor's-rates, should claim to be registered, as the collector may not, perhaps, prove that he demanded the payment before the 6th of April, and as there are many rates not legally made.

The non-payment of the shilling annually charged in some parishes, in respect of the registration, does not disfranchise, whether demanded or not.

The 25th day of August.—This is the last day for sending in claims and objections in cities and boroughs, and for objecting to county voters.

Beginning of September.—The lists of objections to voters in cities, boroughs, and counties, and of the claims of persons omitted from the lists of voters in cities and boroughs may, ten days before the 15th of September, be seen gratis at the overseer's houses, and, on two Sundays preceding the 15th of September, on all church and chapel doors, and may be purchased for 1s. In cities and boroughs the lists of objections should be inspected, as no notice is given to the party objected to, and all claimants not entitled to vote should be opposed before the revising barristers.

From the 15th September to the 25th of October.—The revising barristers now hold their courts. All persons interested therein should not fail to attend. Public notice on the church and chapel doors, and in the newspapers, is given of the time of holding the several courts. The claims and objections of persons who do not attend will be disallowed, and persons objected to will have their names expunged, if they be absent. Mistakes may be corrected.

The 1st day of November.—The new registers of voters, throughout the country, take effect. Copies are sold by the returning officers, at a reasonable price. Should an election take place between this day and the 1st of November, next year, those persons only can vote who have been inserted in such registers; but persons may tender their votes if the revising barrister decided against them.

Claim to be Rated.—As the parish officers are not in the

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habit of dividing premises into different tenements, it becomes necessary, in order to obtain the right to be registered, for the occupiers of shops, workshops, warehouses, counting-houses, and other lodgings or buildings, to give notice of the occupancy to the overseers, and to claim to be rated. No particular form of claim to be rated is absolutely necessary, for a mere verbal request of an overseer is sufficient, but the following form may be adopted :—

CLAIM TO BE RATED.

To the overseers of the parish of

I hereby give you notice that I occupy a at No. in street, in your parish; and I claim to be rated to the relief of the poor in respect of such premises, in order that I may be entitled to vote in the election of Members of Parliament for the city of

Dated this day of 184

(Signed)

of

N.B.—Insert the name of the parish and the nature of the premises, as house, warehouse, counting-house, shop, workshop, stable, shed, or as the case may be, and the name of the street, court, &c., and of the city or borough. Put in the date, and sign the names of the claimant, and his place of residence, at full length. Give this claim to an overseer, and carefully preserve a correct copy. The party who serves the claim should immediately write on the copy to whom the claim was delivered, and the day of the month. If any poor's rate be due in respect of the premises occupied by the claimant, tender the amount. If omitted from the list of voters on the the 31st of July, claim to be registered on or before the 25th of August.

By section 30 of the Reform Act, the overseers are required to put the name of the claimant upon the rate for the time being, and the claimant is deemed to have been rated from the period at which such rate was made. By section 75, every overseer or other person wilfully disobeying the act, is liable to a penalty of £500. The claimant need not again demand to be rated, so long as he retains the same premises, but in case of removal a new claim should be sent in immediately with a notice thereon as follows :—"I have removed from a at No. in street, in the parish of ."

It will be better for the claimant that his name be not inserted in the rate, as then he can never be a defaulter.

Claim to be Registered.—Every man who believes that he is entitled to a vote should claim to be registered and attend before the revising barristers. If his claim be disallowed, and an election take place, he may then tender his vote, and the returning officer is bound to enter such tender in the poll book. A committee of the House of Commons may afterwards decide that the vote is good, and add it to the poll in favour of the candidate for whom it was tendered.

The following is a form of a claim to be registered :—

CLAIM TO BE REGISTERED.

To the overseers of the parish of

I hereby give you notice that I claim to have my name inserted in the list made by you of persons entitled to vote in the election of Members for the city of and that my qualification consists of a at No. in street, in your parish.

Dated this day of August, 184

(Signed)

of

N.B.—Insert the name of the parish, and the nature of the premises as house, warehouse, counting house, shop, workshop, stable, shed, or as the case may be, and the name of the street, court, &c.; and of the city or borough; put in the date, and sign the names of the claimant, and his place of abode at full length. In Westminster, after the words "persons entitled" add ("under the Reform Act,") or else ("in respect of the Scot and Lot Franchise.")

After the 31st of July, and on or before the 25th of August, give this claim to an overseer, and afterwards attend before the revising barristers who hold their courts between the 15th of September and the 25th of October. A correct copy of this claim should be kept, and the party who serves the claim should immediately write on the copy to whom the claim was delivered, and the day of the month. In case of removal during the year, the claim should be made in respect of the newly acquired premises.

This claim to be registered must be made every year that the name of the party is omitted from the list of voters. The overseers are required by the Reform Act to include the name of the claimant in the list of claims, to be published on the church and chapel doors on the two Sundays next preceding the 15th of September.

The Countess of Durham has given a donation of ten guineas, and become an annual subscriber of five guineas, to the Royal Victoria Asylum for the Blind.

The Rev. Joseph M'Alister has been elected to succeed the Rev. William Turner in the pastoral charge of the Unitarian church, assembling in Hanover-square chapel, Newcastle. Mr. Turner, we understand, is likely to leave Newcastle for Manchester, at the close of his long connection with the chapel in question.

NATERAL FIZZIK, OR THE DOCKTERS DUIN FOR!

FAREWEEL, fareweel, to GILSLAND spaws!
Fareweel to a' yor wayters!
They're a' now duin, the Dockter knaws,
An' mun giv' place to *Naters'*:
The time's gyen by when a' yor jaunts
To mony a *weel*-knawn scene,
Hez gi'en relief to cares an' wants—
Wor care's now JESMOND DENE.

CROFT shortly mun drop down its heed,
An' MIDDLETON the syem:
For HARRYGATE there'll be no need—
Wor cure is close at hyem.
A spaw's been fund to mend a' ills—
It beats a' uther wayters:
There'll be no call for draught or pills—
This is the draught ov *Natur's*.

What bevvy bills we've paid to sum!
What mony bouts we've bidden!
How near we've been to kingdom cum—
An' yet so near *the midden!*
Great shyem upon yor lairned folks,
That touch upon see maitters!
The Docktors lang ha'e been a hoax—
The Docktors' hoax is *Naters*.

Byeth young an' and, an' deef an' dum,
The palsied an' the cripple—
An' them whese ills may hev to cum,
Are better'd bi this tipple.
Or if y're hypped, an' cannit tell
What really is the maitter,
Just gan an' drink ov JESMOND's well—
Trust only unto *Natur*.

Cum a' ye maim'd, an' halt, an' blinnd,
Wi' scabby skin or heed;
An' ye whe squint, a cure ye'll find—
Cum buck-shinn'd an' in-kneed.
Cum ye wi' livvers half-worn oot
Wi' fuddlin':—sun or later
Ye'll get a' weel, there is no doot,
Bi drinkin' Naters' wayter.

Ye'll find no swindling i' the smell
Ov sulphur, gas, an' eggs,
An' uther things aw need'nt tell—
Ye'll mebby knaw the dregs.
Then gan i' shoals, ma canny folks—
Whate'er yor ills, no maitter—
An' nivvur mind G.'s gibes an' jokes:
Put a' yor trust in *Natur*'.

THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

THE electors of the county of Durham, although they have not done all that they might and ought, have yet less cause for self-reproach than the electors of other counties. North Durham might have sent a second Reformer to Parliament—Sunderland might have sent a second Reformer to Parliament—we almost think that Durham-city might have sent a second Reformer to Parliament. But still, notwithstanding the omission of the Liberals to contest the representation of the three constituencies in the county which are now neutralized, we are enabled to make an honourable response to the appeal of Her Majesty. Our return is as follows :—

	Reformers.	Tories.
City of Durham	Mr. T. C. Granger	Capt. Fitzroy
Sunderland	Mr. David Barclay	Ald. Thompson
North Durham	Mr. Hedworth Lambton	Hon. H. T. Liddell
South Durham	Mr. John Bowes Lord Harry Vane	
Gateshead	Mr. William Hutt	
South Shields	Mr. J. T. Wawn	

Thus, stedfast Durham—honest, liberty-loving Durham—has no share in the odium which attaches to the country, for its election of a Tory Parliament. Our

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county will be represented in the House of Commons by *seven* Reformers and *three* Tories.

But—Reformers of Durham!—be not satisfied even with this majority in your favour. *Register!* and, at the next general election—(it is not far distant)—*we will not send one Tory to the House of Commons!*

REFORMERS! REGISTER!

CORN LAWS.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF ALL RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS, ON THE SUBJECT OF THE LAWS RESTRICTING THE FOOD OF THE COMMUNITY, to be held in Manchester, commencing Tuesday, August 17, 1841.

CIRCULAR, issued to the Ministers of Religion in Manchester and its vicinity.

15, Lever-street, July 8th, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—The present communication has its origin in the deliberations of a few friends, who, being deeply interested in the physical and moral condition of the poor, and in the general welfare of our country, have come together to consider what is our duty at the present crisis.

The aspect of public affairs, at this juncture, is fearfully ominous of collision and animosity between the different classes of the community, and seems to demand the prayerful interposition and co-operation of all who desire the peace of our population and the prosperity of the empire.

Our consultations have brought us to the unanimous conclusion, that the attention of the *religious public* should be immediately directed—

To the effects of the monopoly in food;

To the principles upon which the law of that monopoly is based; and

To the most legitimate and Christian means of obtaining an equitable settlement of the question, without civil convulsion, and without injury to the just interests of any class of our fellow-citizens.

We are fully persuaded that these inquiries may be most beneficially prosecuted in a free and friendly conference of ministers of religion, from all parts of the United Kingdom; and that such a convention might, under the blessing of God, exercise a salutary and decisive influence.

With these views, we respectfully and urgently solicit your co-operation and direction in regard to such a movement; and shall feel obliged by your attendance at a meeting of the ministers of this town and neighbourhood, to be held in the Boroughreeve's Room, Town Hall, King-street, Manchester, on Monday morning next, the 12th instant, at eleven o'clock precisely. I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

GEORGE THOMPSON.

The meeting, convened as above, was attended by twenty-eight ministers. The origin and object of the meeting having been briefly explained, a full discussion of the subject took place, at the conclusion of which the following resolution was passed, with one dissentient:—

Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this meeting that the conference contemplated in the circular, issued by Mr. George Thompson, is desirable; that measures be adopted to convene the ministers of religion, (who may be able to assemble,) from all parts of the United Kingdom, to deliberate on the questions suggested for consideration; and that the Convention be held in the week between the 15th and 22d of August next.

A committee of nine gentlemen, with power to add to their number, was appointed to carry this resolution into effect. The following is their address to the Ministers of all Religious Denominations throughout the United Kingdom:—

GENTLEMEN,—Receive the present address as if from friends of the suffering poor, and the lovers of peace and righteousness.

We are surrounded by scenes of want and misery, over which our hearts have long mourned, with the power of affording little, beyond the consolation of mere words.

We are brought to the conclusion, that it is *our duty*, and the duty of all who fill the sacred office of ministers of religion, to look into the causes of our national distress.

The conviction has been forced upon our own minds, that the sufferings we deplore and the calamities we would avert, may be traced, in a great degree, to the operation of the laws which produce a scarcity of the necessaries of life, by circumscribing the bounties of Divine Providence.

But we need counsel and co-operation, that we may proceed wisely and efficiently. We therefore earnestly invite you to a free and friendly conference on the subject of the laws which restrict the supply of food to the people of this country, and the principles upon which such laws are based—to the end that we may agree upon the adoption of some Christian and constitutional measures, for the removal of the ascertained causes of the increasing poverty and impending ruin of large classes of our fellow-citizens.

Conferences on debateable and different subjects have already been productive of the best results, whether for conviction in the minds of inquirers, or for constraining unwilling parties to fulfil the demands of justice. Anti-Slavery Conventions, in recent times, produced effects which warrant our hope as rational and well founded that this conference will become influential and decisive.

We think we may be permitted to say, that to no body of men ought such momentous questions to be submitted with a better prospect of a calm, an enlightened, and an honest solution, than to that body which we desire to convene—a body composed of men who, while deeply sympathizing in the wants and woes of the poor, profess to respect the just rights of all, and to be guided equally by the feelings of a disinterested benevolence and the dictates of an uncompromising morality. We cannot doubt that the decisions of such a body would exercise a benign and beneficial influence over the nation at large.

We feel persuaded that we need employ no arguments to prove, that the cause in which we would enlist your individual and combined exertions is associated with all the nearest and dearest interests of those to whose welfare you are devoted, or that the ends of morality and pure religion would be much promoted by the alleviation of the existing, wide-spread wretchedness. But, one thing is certain—we shall be fulfilling the behests of that religion whose ministers we are, by demonstrating our desire and determination to do what we can for the physical as well as the spiritual benefit of our fellowmen.

Accept, then, our invitation, and unite with us in an effort for the common weal and general safety. For a while let us lay aside our sectarian and partizan differences, and, on the hallowed ground of Christian charity, assemble for the purpose of bettering the condition of famishing multitudes.

As the friends of humanity, let us plead the cause of the poor.

As the expounders and defenders of the principles of immutable justice, let us protest against laws, under whatsoever form, which deny to our necessitous fellow-countrymen a share in the bounties which the Creator has provided for the wants of all his creatures.

As the ministers of religion, let us remove, if it be possible, the causes which are engendering a frightful amount of immorality and impiety.

As patriots, burning with a love of country, let us make an effort to put away occasions of disaffection and animosity, and to restore peace and harmony to a now unhappily distracted people; and may the blessing of God rest upon our meeting!

Not only are those invited whose minds are made up, but those, also, who have conscientious difficulties which may possibly be removed by candid and full discussion.

Every effort will be made to provide hospitable accommodation for accredited individuals attending the conference.

Those who intend to accept this invitation, are requested to take counsel of their congregations, how they may best facilitate the object of the conference, and provide funds necessary for the journey.

The conference will commence its sittings on the morning of Tuesday, the 17th of August, at ten o'clock, at the Town Hall, Manchester.

Communications to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, 15, Lever-street, Manchester.

On behalf of the Committee,
GEORGE THOMPSON, Hon. Sec.

Manchester, July 13, 1841.

GATESHEAD UNION

A RELIEVING OFFICER and REGISTRAR for the Winlaton District, will be appointed at the next Meeting of the Board, to be held on TUESDAY, the 27th inst. Candidates are requested to send their testimonials, sealed, and addressed to the Clerk, on or before Saturday, the 24th inst,

WILLIAM ROWNTREE, Clerk to the Union.

Gateshead Union Office, 14th July, 1841.

THE GATESHEAD UNION.

TO IRONFOUNDERS.

THE Building Committee of the Gateshead Union will receive tenders for the supply of Metal Rails and Gates required in front of the New Workhouse, according to a plan and specification, which may be seen on application to the Clerk of the Works. Sealed Proposals, addressed to the Clerk, will be received until Monday, the 26th July inst.

WILLIAM ROWNTREE.
Clerk to the Union.

Gateshead Union Office, July 14, 1841.

TO THE MAGISTRATES OF THE EAST DIVISION OF CASTLE WARD, IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,—The elections having closed, you may now have a little time to attend to other business. I caused a letter to be inserted in this paper of the 12th of June last, addressed to you, concerning the fines for using false weights and measures, and have received no explanation as to how the money was disposed of, which I think, in common justice to yourselves, you ought to have given, as the causes

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were tried before you. Allow me, however, to extend my inquiries.

In the year 1839, the sum of £102 was paid to Messrs. Barkers & Fenwick, your Clerks, for fines; and the county Treasurer's published accounts for Tynemouth, from June, 1839, to June, 1840, acknowledges only £4 10s. 6½d.

I respectfully request you will at your earliest convenience give the required explanation, in justice to the public, and to yourselves as magistrates and gentlemen.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant,
North Shields, July 12th, 1841. WILLIAM COWEY.

NOTICE.—The Committee appointed this day by the Meeting held in the Guildhall, to take into consideration the state of the unemployed Operatives, will sit at the Council Chamber, Guildhall, on MONDAY MORNING NEXT, at 10 o'clock; and the Operatives and Labourers of Newcastle, now without employment, are requested to attend the Committee, to furnish information on the existing distress.

Subscription Lists lie at the Banks in Newcastle; at Mr. CHARNLEY's, Bookseller, Bigg Market; Mr. HEATON's, Bookseller, Sandhill; the Exchange News Room, Sandhill; and the Central Exchange News Room.

JOHN RIDLEY, Mayor.

Council Chamber, Newcastle,
16th July, 1841.

THE VICTORIA BLIND ASYLUM.

THE annual meeting of the governors and friends of the Royal Victoria Asylum for the Blind, of which her Majesty is now the Patroness, was held in the New Music Hall, Nelson-street, Newcastle, on Wednesday, July 22, at noon. There was a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen—much larger than we had ventured to anticipate. JOHN RIDLEY, Esq., Mayor, presided; and the Sheriff, James Archbold, Esq., was also present. We further observed—Capt. J. D. Weatherley, the Revds. W. Turner, R. Clayton, D. C. Browning, and J. M'Alister, Dr. Headlam, C. J. Bigge, Esq., Justice Nichol, Alderman Potter, and T. M. Greenhow, Humble Lamb, M. Longridge, William Chapman, J. Grote, J. Priestman, G. Straker, and J. Edgcome, Esqrs.

The pupils, who sat on the right and left of the Worshipful the Mayor, having sung "O thou that tellest good tidings of Zion," accompanied by their blind teacher, Mr. William Brear, organist of St. Thomas's,

Mr. JOSEPH WATSON, one of the Hon. Secretaries, read the Report of the Committee—a very gratifying document, and which was received with much applause. We give a copy:—

It is with feelings of unmixed thankfulness and satisfaction, that the Committee meet the Governors on this the third anniversary of the Royal Victoria Asylum for the Blind. They have to report uninterrupted prosperity and growing success. On the one hand, continued and increasing support from the public: on the other, most satisfactory progress and behaviour on the part of the pupils.

Since the last annual meeting, eight inmates have been received into the Asylum, two have left, and the number now employed and receiving instruction amounts to 26.

The institution may be said to be divided into two branches or departments, the manufacturing and the educational. To each of these your Committee would briefly direct your attention.

The manufacturing department is for the purpose of giving constant employment to such of the industrious blind, as, having learnt a trade, are desirous of exercising their knowledge to procure their own living. They are not boarded in the Asylum, but receive weekly wages. They also direct and instruct the younger pupils, and, in common with them, receive the invaluable benefit of religious instruction under the Chaplain, and have the opportunity, during their leisure hours, of improving themselves in music, reading, geography, and other branches of mental culture. The number now thus employed is 17, and the result of their labours, with reference to the institution, is that, with a ready sale, after paying their wages and the cost of materials for manufacture, a small sum is left as an assistance to the general objects of the institution.

The educational department consists of 9 male and 10 female pupils. Two females, in addition to their board, receive a small annual stipend, for their assistance in instructing the others. The branches of instruction consist of various descriptions of handicraft, reading, arithmetic, geography, and music. The Governors have now an opportunity of observing the satisfactory progress which many of these have made since the last anniversary.

The improvements in the financial state of your institution cannot be better shown than by reference to the increase of the receipts for the sale of work during the past year over those of the former year. The sum thus received, from 30th June, 1839, to 30th June, 1840, was £172 3s. 9d.; whilst the receipts for the sale of work, from 30th June, 1840, to the same period in 1841, amount to £469 13s. 2d.

On the occasion of the birth of the Princess Royal, in November last, while the nation was pouring in offerings of congratulation on the happy event, it was considered that Her Majesty would not disdain to accept (humble though it might be) a tribute of loyalty and affection, the work of her blind subjects; and a shawl, the entire manufacture of the blind inmates of this Asylum, was forwarded to Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, through whose kindness it obtained access to Her Majesty, and was graciously received. In token of her approbation, Her Majesty has been pleased to order five others of the same description, (which have been completed,) and was further most graciously pleased to patronize the institution. The Committee are desirous of recording their sense of the great obligation which they are under to Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, for the kind interest she was pleased to take in these proceedings.

In connection with this subject, the Committee would further add, that 43 shawls have been made since October last, including one ordered by and made for the Right Hon. Lady Ravensworth; and that orders have been received by the Matron for 24 more shawls.

In their last Report, the Committee alluded to the insufficiency of the accommodation afforded by the present building for the purposes of the institution. They are happy to say, that, according to the sanction of the general meeting of March last, they have now completed the purchase of the house in Northumberland-street, possession of which will be taken on the 1st of August, and which they trust will be found well adapted for the intended prospects of the institution.

Some propositions have been received from a Committee appointed by the Town Council, having reference to a proposed junction of this institution with another in the town, having in part the same objects in view, viz., The Northern Asylum for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb. Your Committee, having only at heart the extension of the charity in that way in which it can be most productive of benefit and advantage to all classes of the blind, have had no hesitation in agreeing to the propositions thus laid before them. Of the present state of the negociations, they cannot speak with certainty, and therefore do not feel that the subject is yet in a position to be brought before the Governors.

Your Committee cannot forbear alluding to the completion of a work during the past year, possessing a peculiar interest to all true friends to the education of the blind, viz., the printing of the whole of the Sacred Scriptures in raised characters, by John Alston, Esq., of Glasgow, a gentleman whose philanthropic exertions on behalf of this interesting class of our fel'ow-creatures are beyond all praise, and to whose kindness your institution is greatly indebted.

Although they are aware that on entering their new premises they may expect a heavy drain on the resources of the institution, yet they have considered it their duty to the pupils to procure a copy of this necessarily expensive but invaluable work—this record of the principles on which your institution is founded.

Your Committee have to express their perfect satisfaction with the Master and Matron. They consider it a peculiarly happy circumstance for your institution to have met with two individuals so fully uniting the various qualifications requisite for these situations; and whether they look at their zeal in forwarding the interests of the institution by sales, their care of the morals and behaviour of the inmates, or their successful endeavours to promote their rational happiness, on all these points your Committee have the strongest reasons to be satisfied. As a small token of their entire approbation, they would suggest, that, in addition to their annual salary, a gratuity of £10 be presented to the Master, and £5 to the Matron.

The thanks of the Governors are justly due to the ladies who have kindly visited the Asylum during the past years, assisting in the amusement and instruction of the female inmates, by reading to them during their sedentary employments.

The invaluable services of the Rev. R. Clayton scarcely need remark, they are so well known and so highly appreciated. They are indeed such as to render every friend to the institution under the deepest obligations to him.

The health of the inmates has been attended to by T. M. Greenhow, Esq., and the thanks of the Asylum are due to him for his gratuitous professional services.

The Committee have also to thank the owners of Townley Main Colliery for a keel of coals—a valuable present during the late severe winter. They cannot attempt to particularize many other similar acts of kindness which this institution has received during the past year—in the presents of materials for manufacture and of books, and in the countenance and encouragement which, in various ways, have been given to it. But whilst recording their sense of these obligations to those individuals whom the God of Love has raised up in support of the Asylum, they would ascribe all the praise and glory to Him, who has been thus pleased to bless their humble efforts, and to prosper this institution to an extent which the most sanguine expectations of its friends had scarcely ventured to anticipate.

This was the report.—Mr. Watson next read the accounts, which were in a highly favourable condition, presenting a good balance in favour of the institution. To show the extent of business done in the past twelve months, we copy a statement of the sales, viz.:—338 rope-mats, 458 baskets, 2,065¼ lbs. of twine and cord, 8 lbs of spun yarn, 30 hair matresses, 7 cocoa ditto, 24 straw ditto, and sundry other articles.

The SHERIFF moved the adoption of the report, and that it be printed. Mr. Ald. POTTER seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

The children read several passages of Scripture, with more or less facility, according to the length of time which they had

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respectively been under tuition; and they also answered several questions put to them by the Rev. RICHARD CLAYTON, the Chaplain of the Asylum. Mr. Clayton observed, that he had enjoyed much satisfaction of mind in connection with the institution. With the Committee he had always acted with perfect harmony. The Master and Matron ably and conscientiously supported him in his religious instruction of the inmates; and those instructions, he had reason to believe, were blessed to the spiritual advantage of his interesting charge. He had thought it right to say these few words, and to state that he had never regretted his determination to remain the Chaplain of the Asylum. (Applause.)

"Sound the loud timbrel" was now sung; and Mr. GROTE introduced to the attention of the meeting a mode of communication between blind persons, by which they could correspond when far separate from each other, viz., the "string alphabet." By a certain disposition of knots upon a cord, the blind could interchange ideas; and in this manner one of the inmates of the Victoria Asylum had received a "letter" from a friend in Edinburgh.

One of the girls, in illustration of this curious system of letter-writing, knotted a verse of the Psalms, and then handed it to a blind youth, who read it aloud.

The company took great interest in this mode of writing "a long yarn" to a friend at a distance; and several cords, knotted by the blind children, were eagerly and minutely examined.

The proficiency of the pupils in geography and arithmetic was next exhibited; and three of them—one of whom was Cyrus Gamble, of Leicester—played with much skill on the piano-forte. The "National Anthem" was then sung; after which—

A vote of thanks was given to the Committee, on the motion of Mr. Longridge, seconded by Capt. West; to the Chaplain, on the motion of Ald. Potter, seconded by Mr. Grote; and to the Mayor, on the motion of Mr. Chapman, seconded by the Rev. R. Clayton.

A collection was made, and several articles were purchased. Among the articles exhibited were two or three elegant shawls, similar to those manufactured for the Queen, and also (what few, perhaps, expected to see) a large target!

In the evening, for the convenience of those who could not attend in the day-time, the examination was resumed, when there was again a numerous attendance.

Every one was pleased with this anniversary-meeting, and much interested in the happy and comely-looking inmates of the Asylum.

We conclude with a list of the officers, committee, and trustees of the newly-purchased building in Northumberland-street, elected by the subscribers:—Treasurer, Charles John Bigge, Esq. Secretaries—Messrs. John Morrison and Joseph Watson. Auditors—Messrs. Nathaniel Hindhaugh and George Atley Brumell. Committee—Messrs. Joseph Armstrong, Thomas Bruce, George Currie, William Chapman, Thomas Dunn, R. R. Dees, James Edgecome, James Finlay, Joseph Grote, William Hardcastle, James Morrison, Robert Ormston, Ralph Walters, Capt. Weatherley, Capt. West. Jonathan Priestman, R. P. Philipson, A. L. Potter, R. S. Stanley, and James Sillick.

Charcoal SKETCH (BY *Blackwood*) OF "CANNIE NEWCASTLE."—The whole of the drive from Durham to Newcastle is through smut and coal-dust. Innumerable collieries are vomiting forth clouds of smoke—the very trees having their green leaves begrimed with soot. At short intervals along the road are splendid houses—the mansions of the great proprietors—built of the finest stone, but blackened and dirtied by the murky atmosphere. Perhaps the smoke arising from these subterranean treasures has some sweet savour in the nostrils of the owners, unknown to the olfactories of disinterested men; but to us the vicinity of so many chimneys would be intolerable. The expense in soap must be prodigious! The landscape, naturally beautiful, is utterly ruined; and henceforward we shall always be of opinion that old King Cole is a decided enemy to the picturesque. But if this be the case in single houses, what must it be in a town? and of all the dingy, dirty, detestable towns in England, or elsewhere, Newcastle-on-Tyne is decidedly the worst; and we may venture to add, without much fear of contradiction, that the most abominable inn in that abominable town, is the ———. There were thirty different parties at tea, and only two waiters. The consequence was, we had all to turn waiters too, for an indefinite period, and at an immense sacrifice of time and temper. The rooms were dark and dirty; and there was a chambermaid who was so preternaturally ugly that she might have done for a portrait of nightmare. Fussell never imagined anything so diabolical after gorging himself with raw pork steaks; and to this hour we have some doubts whether the hideous being was not a fantasm of the brain, instead of a living and breathing native of Newcastle. There is, however, this abatement to her ugliness, that as beauty and ugliness, in spite of Lord Jeffrey, are rather relative than positive, she is perhaps thought a very tolerable young woman in her native place—for the streets were thronged with the most ill-favoured population we ever encountered—cripples, dwarfs, and drunkards. The number of spirit-shops is, indeed, amazing, and they seemed all in full trade. Men tolerably well dressed were staggering about completely drunk. This was about seven o'clock in the evening—and women were crowding into the gin-shops—a fearful sight. We have passed two or three times through Birmingham, and never saw such proofs of the iniquity and demoralization of a great manufacturing town as we did in our two hours' stroll through the streets of Newcastle.—*Blackwood's Magazine.* [A flattering portrait, truly!]

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

[IN the following list the letter "R." at the top of a column stands for Reformer: "T." for Tory. Where the members returned for any town or county are both of the same politics, the figures at the end of the line will indicate at once the party to which they belong; but where the members are of opposite politics, then the first-named member is the Reformer—the second the Tory.]

ENGLISH BOROUGHS.

	R.	T.
Abingdon..T. Duffield	0	1
Andover..R. Etwall, Lord W. Paget	2	0
Arundel..Lord Fitzalan	1	0
Ashburton..W. Jardine	1	0
Ashton-under-Lyne..C. Hindley	1	0
Aylesbury..C. J. B. Hamilton, R. R. Clayton	0	2
Bunbury..H. W. Tancred	1	0
Barnstaple..F. Hodgson, Montagu Gore	0	2
Bath..Lord Duncan, J. A. Roebuck	2	0
Beaumaris..Lieut.-Col. Paget	1	0
Bedford..Captain Polhill, H. Stuart	0	2
Berwick..M. Forster, R. Hodgson	1	1
Beverley..John Towneley, J. W. Hogg	1	1
Bewdley..Sir T. Winnington	1	0
Birmingham..G. F. Muntz, J. Scholefield	2	0
Blackburn..W. Fielden, J. Hornby	0	2
Bodmin..Major Vivian, Lord Leicester	1	1
Bolton..P. Ainsworth, Dr. Bowring	2	0
Boston..Sir J. Duke, J. S. Brownrigg	1	1
Bradford..W. C. Lister, John Hardy	1	1
Brecon..C. M. R. Morgan	0	1
Bridgenorth..T. C. Whitmore, Sir Robert Pigot	0	2
Bridgewater..H. Broadwood, T. S. Forman	0	2
Bridport..H. Warburton, T. A. Michell	2	0
Brighton..Capt. Pechell, J. N. Wigney	2	0
Bristol..Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley, P. W. S. Miles	1	1
Buckingham..Sir T. Fremantle, Sir John Chetwode	0	2
Bury (Lanc.)..R. Walker	1	0
Bury St. Edmund's..Lord C. Fitzroy, Lord Jermyn	1	1
Calne..Earl of Shelburne	1	0
Cambridge..Hon. H. M. Sutton, Sir A. C. Grant	0	2
Cambridge U...Right Hon. H. Goulburn, Hon. C. E. Law	0	2
Canterbury..Hon. G. S. Smythe, J. Bradshaw	0	2
Cardiff..J. Nicholl	0	1
Cardigan..Pryse Pryse	1	0
Carlisle..P. H. Howard, W. Marshall	2	0
Carmarthen..D. Morris	1	0
Carnarvon..W. B. Hughes	0	1
Chatham..Right Hon. G. S. Byng	1	0
Cheltenham..Hon. Capt. Berkeley	1	0
Chester..Lord R. Grosvenor, John Jervis	2	0
Chichester..J. A. Smith, Lord A. Lennox	1	1
Chippenham..Joseph Neeld, Captain Boldero	0	2
Christchurch..Sir Geo. Rose	0	1
Cirencester..Wm. Cripps, T. W. C. Master	0	2
Clitheroe..M. Wilson	1	0
Cockermouth..H. A. Aglionby, E. Horsman	2	0
Colchester..J. Saunderson, Sir G. H. Smyth	0	2
Coventry..Wm. Williams, Right Hon. E. Ellice	2	0
Cricklade..Hon. Capt. Howard, John Neeld	1	1
Dartmouth..Sir John Seale	1	0
Denbigh..T. Mainwaring	0	1
Derby..Edward Strutt, Hon. J. G. Ponsonby	2	0
Devizes..T. E. Sotheron, G. H. W. Heneage	0	2
Devonport..Henry Tufnell, Sir George Grey	2	0
Dorchester..Hon. A. C. Ashley, Sir James Graham	0	2
Dover..E. R. Rice, Sir J. R. Reid	1	1
Droitwich..J. S. Pakington	0	1
Dudley..Thomas Hawkes	0	1

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Durham..T. Colpits Granger. Capt. R. Fitzroy, R.N.	1	1
Evesham..Lord M. Hill, Peter Borthwick	1	1
Exeter..E. Divett, Sir William Follett	1	1
Eye..Sir E. Kerrison	0	1
Finsbury..Thomas S. Duncombe, Thomas Wakley	2	0
Flint..Sir R. Bulkeley	1	0
Frome..T. Sheppard	0	1
Gateshead..William Hutt	1	0
Gloucester..J. Philpotts, Capt. M. F. Berkeley	2	0
Grantham..G. E. Welby, Hon. F. J. Tollemache	0	2
Greenwich..Capt. D. Dundas, E. G. Barnard	2	0
Grimsby..E. Heneage	1	0
Guildford..R. D. Mangles, C. B. Wall	2	0
Halifax..Edward Protheroe, Charles Wood	2	0
Harwich..John Attwood, Major Beresford	0	2
Hastings..R. Hollond, Right Hon. J. Planta	1	1
Haverfordwest..Sir R. B. Phillips	1	0
Helston..Sir R. R. Vyvyan	0	1
Hereford..E. B. Clive, H. W. Hobhouse	2	0
Hertford..Hon. W. F. Cowper, Lord Mahon	1	1
Honiton..Colonel Baillie, F. A. M'Geachy	0	2
Horsham..Hon. R. C. Scarlett	0	1
Huddersfield..W. R. C. Stansfield	1	0
Hull..Sir J. Hanmer, Sir W. James	0	2
Huntingdon..Sir F. Pollock, Col. Peel	0	2
Hythe..S. Marjoribanks	1	0
Ipswich..Rigby Wason, George Rennie	2	0
Kendal..G. W. Wood	1	0
Kidderminster..R. Godson	0	1
Knaresborough..A Lawson, W. B. Ferrand	0	2
Lambeth..B. Hawes, Temyson D'Eyncourt	2	0
Lancaster..T. Greene, G. Marton	0	2
Launceston..Sir H. Hardinge	0	1
Leeds..Wm. Aldam, jun., W. Beckett	1	1
Leicester..John Easthope, Wynn Ellis	2	0
Leominster..C. Greenaway, J. Wigram	0	2
Lewes..Somers Harford, H. Elphinstone	2	0
Lichfield..Sir Geo. Anson, Lord A. Paget	2	0
Lincoln..Col. Sibthorpe, W. R. Collett	0	2
Liskeard..C. Buller	1	0
Liverpool..Lord Sandon, C. Cresswell	0	2
London..Sir M. Wood, Lord J. Russell, J. Masterman, G. Lyall	2	2
Ludlow..B. Botfield, James Ackers	0	2
Lyme Regis..Wm. Pinney	1	0
Lymington..J. Stewart, W. A. Mackinnon	0	2
Lynn..Lord G. Bentinck, Sir S. Canning	0	2
Macclesfield..J. Brocklehurst, T. Grimsditch	1	1
Maidstone..A. J. B. Hope, George Dodd	0	2
Maldon..Q. Dick, J. Round	0	2
Malmesbury..Hon. J. Howard	1	0
Malton..J. W. Childers, J. E. Denison	2	0
Manchester..M. Philips, T. M. Gibson	2	0
Marlborough..Lord E. Bruce, Hon. H. B. Baring	0	2
Marlow..Sir W. Clayton, T. P. Williams	1	1
Maryleybone..Sir B. Hall, Sir C. Napier	2	0
Merthyr..Sir J. J. Guest	1	0
Midhurst..Sir H. B. Seymour	0	1
Monmouth..R. J. Blewitt	1	0
Montgomery..Hon. H. Cholmondeley	0	1
Morpeth..Hon. Capt. Howard	1	0
Newark..W, E. Gladstone, Lord J. Manners	0	2
Newcastle-under-Lyne..J. Q. Harris, E. Buckley	1	1
Newcastle-upon-Tyne..W. Ord, J. H. Hinde	1	1
Newport..W. Martin, W. Hamilton	0	2
Northallerton..W. B. Wrightson	1	0
Northampton..R. V. Smith, Raikes Currie	2	0
Norwich..B. Smith, Marquis of Doure	1	1
Nottingham..G. de H. Larpent, Sir J. C. Hobhouse	2	0
Oldham..Gen. Johnson, J. Fielden	2	0
Oxford Univ..T. B. G. Estcourt, Sir R. H. Inglis	0	2
Oxford..J. H. Langston, D. Maclean	1	1
Pembroke..Sir J. Owen	0	1
Penryn and Falmouth..Capt. J. C. Vivian, Capt. J. H. Plumridge	2	0
Peterborough..Hon. G. W. Fitzwilliam, Sir R. Heron	2	0
Petersfield..Sir W. Joliffe	0	1
Plymouth..Thomas Gill, Lord Ebrington	2	0
Pontefract..Lord Pollington, R. M. Milnes	0	2
Poole..C. Ponsonby, G. R. Phillips	2	0
Portsmouth..Rt. Hon. F. T. Baring, Sir G. Staunton	2	0
Preston..Sir H. Fleetwood, Sir G. Strickland	2	0
Radnor..Col. Price	0	1
Reading..C. F. Russell, Lord Chelsea	0	2
Reigate..Lord Eastnor	0	1
Retford, East..G. H. Vernon, Hon. A. Duncombe	2	0
Richmond..Hon. J. C. Dundas, Hon. W. N. R. Colborne	0	2
Ripon..J. Pemberton, Sir E. Sugden	2	0
Rochdale..W. S. Crawford	1	0
Rochester..J. S. Douglas, W. H. Bodkin	0	2
Rye..H. B. Curteis	1	0
St. Alban's..Lord Listowell, G. W. J. Repton	1	1
St. Ive's..W. T. Praed	0	1
Salisbury..W. B. Brodie, W. Wyndham	1	1
Salford..J. Brotherton	1	0
Sandwich..Sir T. Troubridge, H. H. Linsday	1	1
Scarborough..Sir J. Johnstone, Sir F. Trench	0	2
Shaftesbury..Lord Howard	1	0
Sheffield..J. Parker, H. G. Ward	2	0
Shoreham..Sir C. M. Burrell, Charles Goring	0	2
Shrewsbury..Col. Tomline, B. D'Israeli	0	2
Southampton..Lord Bruce, C. C. Martyn	0	2
South Shields..J. T. Wawn	1	0
Southwark..Alderman Humphrey, B. Wood	2	0
Stafford..Edw. Buller, Hon. Capt. Carnegie	1	1
Stamford..Marquis of Granby, Sir G. Clerk	0	2
Stockport..H. Marsland, R. Cobden	2	0
Stoke-on-Trent..Louis Ricardo, Ald. Copeland	1	1
Stroud..W. H. Stanton, G. P. Scrope	2	0
Sudbury..F. Villiers, D. O. D. Sombre	2	0
Sunderland..D. Barclay, Ald. Thompson	1	1
Swansea..Major Vivian	1	0
Tamworth..Sir Robert Peel, Capt. E. H. A'Court	0	2
Taunton..Rt. Hon. H. Labouchere, E. T. Bainbridge	2	0
Tavistock..Lord E. Russell, J. Rundle	2	0
Tewkesbury..J. Martin, W. Dowdeswell	1	1
Thetford..Hon. F. Baring, Lord Euston (double return)	1	1
Thirsk..J. Bell	1	0
Tiverton..Lord Palmerston, John Heathcoat	2	0
Totnes..Lord Seymour, C. B. Baldwin	1	1
Tower Hamlets..Wm. Clay, Col. Fox	2	0
Truro..Edmund Turner, J. R. Vivian	1	1
Tynemouth..H. Mitcalfe	1	0
Wakefield..Joseph Holdsworth	1	0
Wallingford..W. S. Blackstone	0	1
Walsall..Robt. Scott	1	0
Wareham..J. S. W. E. Erle Drax	1	0
Warrington..J. I. Blackburne	0	1
Warwick..Wm. Collins, Sir C. Douglas	1	1
Wells..W. G. Hayter, R. Blackmore	1	1
Wenlock..Hon. G. C. Forester, J. M. Gaskell	0	2
Westbury..Sir R. Lopez	0	1
Westminster..J. T. Leader, Hon. Capt. H. J. Rous	1	1
Weymouth..Lord Villiers, G. W. Hope	0	2
Whitby..A. Chapman	0	1
Whitehaven..M. Attwood	0	1
Wigan..P. Greenall, T. B. Crosse	0	2
Wilton..Lord Fitzharris	0	1
Winchester..B. East, B. Escott	0	2
Windsor..J. Ramsbottom, Ralph Neville	1	1
Wolverhampton..Hon. C. P. Villiers, T. Thorneley	2	0
Woodstock..F. Thesiger	0	1
Worcester..Sir T. Wilde, John Bailey	1	1
Wycombe..G. H. Dashwood, R. Bernal, jun.	2	0
Yarmouth..W. Wilshere, C. E. Rumbold	2	0
York. H. Redhead Yorke, J. H. Lowther	1	1

ENGLISH COUNTIES.

Anglesey..Hon. W. O. Stanley	1	0
Bedford..Lord Alford, William Astell	0	2
Berkshire..R. Palmer, Lord Barrington, P. Pusey	0	3
Brecknock..Colonel T. Wood	0	1
Bucks..Sir W. L. Young, C. G. Du Pre, C. R. S. Murray	0	3
Cambridge..Hon. E. T. Yorke, R. J. Eaton, J. P. Allix	0	3
Cardigan..Col. Powell	0	1
Carmarthen..Hon. G. R. Trevor, J. Jones	0	2
Carnarvon..Col. D. Pennant	0	1
Cheshire, N...W. T. Egerton, G. C. Legh	0	2
Cheshire, S...Sir P. Egerton, J. Tollemache	0	2

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Cornwall, E... Lord Eliot, Wm. Rashleigh, jun.	0	2
Cornwall, W... E. W. W. Pendarves, Lord Boscawen Rose	1	1
Cumberland, E... Hon. C. W. Howard, W. James	2	0
Cumberland, W... E. Stanley, S. Irton	0	2
Denbigh.. Hon. W. Bagot, Sir W. W. Wynn	0	2
Derby, N... Hon. G. H. Cavendish, Wm. Evans	2	0
Derby, S... C. R. Colville, E. M. Mundy	0	2
Devon, N... Sir T. D. Acland, L. W. Buck	0	2
Devon, S... Sir J. Y. Buller, Lord Courtenay	0	2
Dorset.. Lord Ashley, H. C. Sturt, George Bankes	0	3
Durham, N... H. Lambton, Hon. H. T. Liddell	1	1
Durham, S... Lord Harry Vane, J. Bowes	2	0
Essex, N... Sir John T. Tyrell, C. G. Round	0	2
Essex, S... T. W. Bramston, George Palmer	0	2
Flint.. Hon. E. M. Ll. Mostyn	1	0
Glamorgan.. C. R. M. Morgan, Lord Adare	1	1
Gloucester, E... C. W. B. Codrington, Hon. F. Charteris	0	2
Gloucester, W... Hon. G. Berkley, W. B. Hale	1	1
Hants, N... C. S. Lefevre, Sir W. Heathcote	1	1
Hants, S... J. Fleming, H. C. Compton	0	2
Hereford.. K. Hoskins, T. B. M. Baskerville, J. Bailey, jun	1	2
Hertford.. Lord Grimston, Hon. G. D. Ryder, Abel Smith	0	3
Huntingdon.. E. Fellowes, G. Thornhill	0	2
Isle of Wight.. Hon. W. H. a'C. Holmes	0	1
Kent, E... Sir E. Knatchbull, J. P. Plumptre	0	2
Kent, W... Sir E. Filmer, Lord Marsham	0	2
Lancashire, N... Lord Stanley, J. W. Patten	0	2
Lancashire, S... Lord F. Egerton, Hon. R. B. Wilbraham	0	2
Leicester, N... Lord C. H. S. Manners, E. B. Farnham	0	2
Leicester, S... H. Halford, C. W. Packe	0	2
Lincoln, N... Lord Worsley, R. A. Christopher	1	1
Lincoln, S... C. Turner, Sir J. Trollope	0	2
Merioneth.. R. Richards	0	1
Middlesex.. G. Byng, Col. Wood	1	1
Monmouth.. Lord G. Somerset, C. O. S. Morgan	0	2
Montgomery.. Right Hon. C. W. Wynne	0	1
Norfolk, E... Hon. E. Wodehouse, H. R. Burroughes	0	2
Norfolk, W... W. Bagge, W. L. W. Chute	0	2
Northampton, N... T. P. Maunsell, A. S. O'Brien	0	2
Northampton, S... W. R. Cartwright, Sir C. Knightley	0	2
Northumberland, N... Lord Ossulston, A. J. B. Cresswell	0	2
Northumberland, S... S. H. C. Ogle, M. Bell	1	1
Nottingham, N... T. Houldsworth, H. G. Knight	0	2
Nottingham, S... Earl of Lincoln, Col. Rolleston	0	2
Oxford.. Lord Norreys, G. V. Harcourt, J. W. Henley	0	3
Pembroke.. Lord Emlyn	0	1
Radnor.. Sir J. Walsh	0	1
Rutland.. G. J. Heathcote, Hon. H. Dawnay	1	1
Shropshire, N... Sir R. Hill, W. O. Gore	0	2
Shropshire, S... Earl of Darlington, Hon. R. H. Clive	0	2
Somerset, E... Col. Langton, W. Miles	1	1
Somerset, W... T. D. Acland, F. H. Dickenson	0	2
Stafford, S... Hon. Col. Anson, Lord Ingestre	1	1
Stafford, N... J. D. W. Russell, C. B. Adderley	0	2
Suffolk, E... Lord Henniker, Sir C. B. Vere	0	2
Suffolk, W... Col. Rushbrook, H. S. Waddington	0	2
Surrey, E... H. Kemble, E. Antrobus	0	2
Surrey, W... W. J. Denison, J. Trotter	1	1
Sussex, E... G. Darby, A. J. Fuller	0	2
Sussex, W... Lord March, Col. Wyndham	0	2
Warwick, N... W. S. Dugdale, Sir J. E. Wilmot	0	2
Warwick, S... Sir J. Mordaunt, E. J. Shirley	0	2
Westmorland.. Lord Lowther, Col. Lowther	0	2
Wilts, N... Sir F. Burdett, W. Long	0	2
Wilts, S... J. Benett, Hon. S. Herbert	0	2
Worcester, E... J. Barneby, J. A. Taylor	0	2
Worcester, W... Hon. H. B. Lygon, F. W. Knight	0	2
Yorkshire, E... R. Broadley, Lord Hotham	0	2
Yorkshire, N... E. S. Cayley, Hon. W. Duncombe	1	1
Yorkshire, W... Hon. J. Wortley, E. B. Denison	0	2

SCOTCH BOROUGHS AND COUNTIES.

Aberdeen.. A. Bannerman	1	0
Aberdeenshire.. Hon. Capt. Gordon	0	1
Argyleshire.. W. Campbell, of Monzie	0	1
Ayrshire.. Lord Kelburne	0	1
Ayr Burgs.. Lord J. Stuart	1	0
Banffshire—James Duff	1	0
Berwickshire.. Sir H. C. Campbell	0	1
Buteshire.. Sir William Rae	0	1
Caithness.. G. Traill	1	0
Clackmannan.. Colonel Abercrombie	1	0
Dumbartonshire.. A. Smollett	0	1
Dumfries.. W. Ewart	1	0
Dumfriesshire.. J. H. Johnstone	0	1
Dundee.. G. Duncan	1	0
Edinburgh.. Right Hon. B. Macaulay, W. G. Craig	2	0
Edinburgh County.. J. Ramsay	0	1
Elgin Burghs.. Sir A. L. Hay	1	0
Elgin and Nairn Counties.. Major C. Bruce	0	1
Falkirk.. W. Baird	0	1
Fifeshire.. Capt. Weymss	1	0
Forfarshire.. Hon. F. Gordon	1	0
Glasgow.. J. Oswald, J. Dennistoun	2	0
Greenock.. R. Wallace	1	0
Haddington.. J. M. Balfour	0	1
Haddingtonshire.. Sir T. Hepburn	0	1
Inverness.. J. Morrison	1	0
Invernessshire.. H. T. Baillie	0	1
Kilmarnock.. A. Johnstone	1	0
Kirkaldy.. Colonel Fergusson	1	0
Kincardineshire.. Hon. H. Arbuthnot	0	1
Kircudbrightshire.. Alexander Murray	1	0
Lanarkshire.. Captain Lockhart	0	1
Leith.. The Lord Advocate	1	0
Linlithgowshire.. Hon. C. Hope	0	1
Montrose.. P. Chalmers	1	0
Orkney and Shetland.. F. Dundas	1	0
Paisley.. A. Hastie	1	0
Peeblesshire.. W. F. Mackenzie	0	1
Perth.. Hon. Fox Maule	1	0
Perthshire.. H. H. Drummond	0	1
Renfrewshire.. Sir P. M. Stewart	1	0
Ross and Cromarty.. J. Mackenzie	0	1
Roxburghshire.. Hon. F. Scott	0	1
Selkirkshire.. A. Pringle	0	1
St. Andrew's.. Edward Ellice	1	0
Stirling Burghs.. Lord Dalmeny	1	0
Stirlingshire.. Forbes, of Callendar	0	1
Sutherlandshire.. David Dundas	1	0
Wigton Burghs.. J. M'Taggart	1	0
Wigtonshire.. Captain Dalrymple	1	0
Wick Burghs.. J. Loch	1	0

IRISH BOROUGHS AND COUNTIES.

Antrim County.. J. Irving, N. Alexander	0	2
Armagh.. Col. J. D. Rawdon	1	0
Armagh County.. Lord Acheson, Col. Verner	1	1
Athlone.. Capt. Beresford	0	1
Bandon.. Sergeant Jackson	0	1
Belfast.. E. Tennent, J. Johnson	0	2
Carlow Borough.. Capt. Layard	1	0
Carlow County.. Colonel Bruen, H. Bunbury	0	2
Carrickfergus.. P. Kirk	0	1
Cashel.. Dr. Stock	1	0
Cavan.. Col. Clements, J. Young	0	2
Clonmel.. D. R. Pigot	1	0
Clare County.. Major M'Namara, Cornelius O'Brien	2	0
Coleraine.. E. Litton	0	1
Cork City.. F. S. Murphy, D. Callaghan	2	0
Cork County.. Daniel O'Connell, E. B. Roche	2	0
Donegal County.. Sir E. Hayes, Col. Conolly	0	2
Downpatrick.. D. Kerr	0	1
Down.. Viscount Castlereagh, Earl of Hillsborough	0	2
Drogheda.. Sir W. Somerville	1	0
Dublin City.. J. B. West, E. Grogan	0	2
Dublin County.. J. Hamilton, Captain Taylor	0	2
Dundalk.. T. N. Redington	1	0
Dungannon.. Lord Northland	0	1
Dungarvon.. Right Hon. R. Sheil	1	0
Dublin University.. Right Hon. F. Shaw, Dr. Lefroy	0	2
Ennis.. Hewitt Bridgeman	1	0
Enniskillen.. Hon. R. H. Cole	0	1
Fermanagh.. Capt. Archdall, Sir A. B. Brooke	0	2
Galway County.. J. Bodkin, T. B. Martin	2	0
Galway Borough.. M. J. Blake, Sir V. Blake	2	0
Kerry County.. M. J. O'Connell, Hon. W. Browne	2	0
Kilkenny.. John O'Connell	1	0
Kilkenny County.. Hon. P. Butler, Major G. Bryan	2	0
Kildare County.. R. More O'Ferrall, R. Archbold	2	0

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King's County..Hon. J. Westenra, A. Armstrong	2	0
Kinsale..W. H. Watson	1	0
Leitrim County..Viscount Clements, S. White	2	0
Limerick City..Sir D. Roche, J. O'Brien	2	0
Limerick County..W. S. O'Brien, Caleb Powell	2	0
Lisburne..Captain Meynell	0	1
Londonderry..Sir R. Fergusson	1	0
Londonderry County..Sir. R. Bateson, Captain T. Jones	0	2
Longford County..Col. H. White, Luke White	2	0
Louth County..R. M. Bellew, M. Dawson	2	0
Mallow..Sir D. O. Norreys	1	0
Mayo County..R. D. Browne, M. Blake	2	0
Meath County..D. O'Connell, H. Grattan	2	0
Monaghan..Hon. H. Westenra, E. Shirley	1	1
Newry..Lord Newry	0	1
New Ross..Colonel Gore	1	0
Portarlington..Col. D. Damer	0	1
Queen's County..Sir C. Coote, Hon. T. Vesey	0	2
Roscommon..O'Connor Don, F. French	2	0
Sligo County..Col. Perceval, W. R. O. Gore	0	2
Sligo Borough..J. P. Somers	1	0
Tipperary County..R. Otway Cave, P. Maher	2	0
Tralee..Maurice O'Connell	1	0
Tyrone..Right Hon. T. Corry, Lord C. Hamilton	0	2
Waterford City..W. Christmas, M. Reade	0	2
Waterford County..Hon. R. S. Carew, W. Villiers Stuart	2	0
Westmeath County..H. M. Tuite, B. Chapman	2	0
Wexford Borough..Sir T. Esmonde	1	0
Wexford County..J. Power, — Hatton	2	0
Wicklow County..Sir R. Howard, Colonel Acton	1	1
Youghal..Hon. C. Cavendish	1	0

☞ Including the double return at Thetford, 288 Reformers have been elected, and 368 Tories.

Charcoal SKETCH (BY *Blackwood*) OF "CANNIE NEWCASTLE."—The whole of the drive from Durham to Newcastle is through smut and coal-dust. Innumerable collieries are vomiting forth clouds of smoke—the very trees having their green leaves begrimed with soot. At short intervals along the road are splendid houses—the mansions of the great proprietors—built of the finest stone, but blackened and dirtied by the murky atmosphere. Perhaps the smoke arising from these subterranean treasures has some sweet savour in the nostrils of the owners, unknown to the olfactories of disinterested men; but to us the vicinity of so many chimneys would be intolerable. The expense in soap must be prodigious! The landscape, naturally beautiful, is utterly ruined; and henceforward we shall always be of opinion that old King Cole is a decided enemy to the picturesque. But if this be the case in single houses, what must it be in a town? and of all the dingy, dirty, detestable towns in England, or elsewhere, Newcastle-on-Tyne is decidedly the worst; and we may venture to add, without much fear of contradiction, that the most abominable inn in that abominable town, is the ——. There were thirty different parties at tea, and only two waiters. The consequence was, we had all to turn waiters too, for an indefinite period, and at an immense sacrifice of time and temper. The rooms were dark and dirty; and there was a chambermaid who was so preternaturally ugly that she might have done for a portrait of nightmare. Fuseli never imagined anything so diabolical after gorging himself with raw pork steaks; and to this hour we have some doubts whether the hideous being was not a fantasm of the brain, instead of a living and breathing native of Newcastle. There is, however, this abatement to her ugliness, that as beauty and ugliness, in spite of Lord Jeffrey, are rather relative than positive, she is perhaps thought a very tolerable young woman in her native place—for the streets were thronged with the most ill-favoured population we ever encountered—cripples, dwarfs, and drunkards. The number of spirit-shops is, indeed, amazing, and they seemed all in full trade. Men tolerably well dressed were staggering about completely drunk. This was about seven o'clock in the evening—and women were crowding into the gin-shops—a fearful sight. We have passed two or three times through Birmingham, and never saw such proofs of the iniquity and demoralization of a great manufacturing town as we did in our two hours' stroll through the streets of Newcastle.—*Blackwood's Magazine.* [A flattering portrait, truly!]

THE NEW SPA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Allow me to state, in a word or two, the question with regard to the merits or demerits of the spa at Jesmond Dean, in so far as I understand them from different analyses which I have made.

The water in question is neither a strongly saline water, nor is it so far charged with sulphuretted hydrogen as to atone for this defect. It is out of the question to expect medicinal effects from a water of such composition, unless the doctrines of the homœopathics be correct.

There are mineral waters which, like Gilsland sulphurous spa, contain nearly as small a quantity of salts; but that water owes its *entire* medicinal energy to the sulphuretted hydrogen which it contains in about the proportion of 17 cubic inches to the gallon.

On the other hand, when we find a spring which contains little or no sulphuretted hydorgen, and which possesses medicinal powers, we find a large quantity of salts. Thus Shotley spa, which is by no means a powerful mineral water, contains 36 grains of muriate of lime, besides about 170 grains of sea salt, in the gallon.

Harrogate water, in addition to from 14 to 16 or even 19 cubic inches of sulphuretted hydrogen, contains about two ounces of salts in the gallon.

The Ouseburn spa altogether wants character as a mineral water. Its constituents are many, in small quantities; and its impregnation with sulphuretted hydrogen is very slight, and in all probability only exists in dry weather; for that brought yesterday and to-day, sealed, from the spring, did not contain a trace. Thus, even supposing it were capable of exercising medicinal power at one time, at another time the same effect could not be expected from it.

Finding that my friends, Mr. Potter and Mr. Clapham, had also analyzed the water, and had come to nearly the same conclusion as myself, I proposed that we should repeat our analyses jointly, which might be especially advisable, on account of the variable composition of the waters.

Dr. Charlton was present during the greater part of the analysis, and has expressed his opinion in the annexed statement.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
R. M. GLOVER, M.D.

12, Northumberland-street, July 16.

ANALYSIS OF THE JESMOND SPA.

CONTENTS OF AN IMPERIAL GALLON.

	cubic inches.
Gaseous constituents:—Sulphuretted hydrogen	*.75
Carbonic acid	6. 5
Azote	not estimated.
Solids:—Carbonate of lime, partly in suspension, and partly kept in solution by excess of carbonic acid	*grs.* 14.74
Carbonate of magnesia	†3. 0
Sulphate of magnesia	2.27
——— lime	.70
——— soda	8.30
Chloride of sodium	6.00
——— magnesium	minute quantity.
Earthy or organic extractive matter, with, perhaps, a portion of petroleum	4.75
Loss	0.24
	Grs. 40.00

When the water issues from the spring, it is not limpid, and becomes turbid in a short time. The taste of sulphuretted hydrogen is feeble at first, and is nearly lost in the course of a few minutes. Some water brought to the laboratory of the Medical School yesterday morning, direct from the spring, where the vessel had been sealed, when filled, did not contain, when tested, the minutest trace of sulphuretted hydrogen. The specific gravity of the water was yesterday 1.0024. Its temperature was 51 deg. when the external air was 58 deg.

ROBERT MORTIMER GLOVER, M.D.
A. CLAPHAM, JUN., Analytical Chemist.
H. G. POTTER, F.L.S. & G.S., London.
EDWARD CHARLTON, M.D.

Medical School, Newcastle, July 16, 1841.

* The water in which this proportion was found was taken on the 3d inst. The vessel containing it was sealed up at the spring, and the analysis commenced in an hour from the time the water was collected. The water analyzed for the solids was obtained on Tuesday last.

† This is probably produced by the decomposition of sulphate of magnesia and carbonate of soda, existing in the liquid. According to this view, carbonate of soda and the sulphates of lime and magnesia might exist in the liquid, instead of a portion of the carbonate of lime and magnesia found therein. Carbonate of soda, and the earthy sulphates or muriates, may perhaps exist in a very dilute solution, although decomposition takes place when the solution is concentrated. After several days' exposure of the water to the action of tests, a trace of iron is perceptible. R. M. G.

THE DAVY LAMP.

AN INQUIRY WHETHER SIR H. DAVY HAS A JUST CLAIM TO THE DISCOVERY OF ITS PRINCIPLE, AND WHETHER IT OUGHT TO BE CONSIDERED A SAFETY LAMP?

(From the Mining Journal.)

AS Sir Humphrey Davy's friends (at least those who write about him) still publicly insist, in Dr. Fara-

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day's words, that the miners' lamp bearing his name ought to be considered "a monument of his powerful genius," it will, perhaps, not be useless to inquire how far he is entitled to the merit of its discovery? and, what is of more importance, as thousands continue to depend on it for protection, whether it is a safe lamp?—for on that point alone must rest its claim to be considered a monument of the powerful genius of any one. The late investigation, by a select committee of forty-two members of the House of Commons, either coal-owners or representatives of mining districts, furnishes much information on these points—probably enough to place them henceforth in a correct position. Their report states "that the principle of its (the Davy Lamp's) construction appears to have been practically known to the witnesses (Clanny and Stephenson) previously to the period when Davy brought his powerful mind to bear upon the subject." It is here necessary to observe, that the principle referred to is the supplying air to support combustion through apertures impervious to flame. Long before Sir H. Davy produced a miner's lamp, attempts had been made to obtain a safer light in coal mines than that furnished by a naked light or sparks from the steel mill. The first attempts deserving notice were by Humboldt and Clanny, with insulated lights: these were not found to be practically useful, and, therefore, were soon rejected. It is, however, justly due to Dr. Clanny, to acknowledge that his lamp was the first to which the principle was applied of supplying the wick with the air of the mine, through a medium really impervious to the flame of its carburetted hydrogen. As much notice was at the time taken of this lamp, it may be assumed that it probably led to the application of its principle by Stephenson—Clanny, in this instance, supplying air to flame through water, and Stephenson afterwards through metallic tubes—perforated metal. It appears that Stephenson, at this period, was only a working mine engineer, and, according to his modest representation before the committee, totally ignorant of chemical principles, and that his notion of constructing a lamp in this form, to resist the passage of flame, was entirely founded on mechanical principles. It is not easy to imagine how any regular induction, from mechanical principles alone, could have led to the construction of such a lamp: if he were totally unacquainted, which is very improbable, with what Dr. Clanny had done, it must be assumed that he was greatly indebted to accident—a source which has been productive of many other valuable discoveries. Be this, however, as it may, Stephenson's was, after Clanny's, the first lamp to act chemically on the principle afterwards claimed by Davy: in proof of this fact, Stephenson's lamp was in public use in October, and Sir H. Davy's not completed, according to his own account, until the subsequent December. Dr. Wollaston asserts that Smithson Tennant had many years before made the discovery that carburetted hydrogen and air would not explode in very small tubes: it does not, however, appear, strange as it may seem, that Davy was aware of this discovery. But with Stephenson he stands in a very different position. Stephenson's lamp was in use long enough for Davy to become acquainted, through his mining correspondents, with its formation, before he produced his own; and it is not a little remarkable, but the fact, that in almost every point in which the present Davy Lamp varies from Stephenson's, its security is lessened. When the safety lamps were tried at the London University, the Davy Lamp was, to the surprise of every one, much less secure than Stephenson's. It is also remarkable, and much to be regretted, that the name of Stephenson is never mentioned by Sir H. Davy in any of his publications. In his pamphlet *On Flame and the Safety Lamp*, he does not even allude to him, although Stephenson was considered his only competitor, and received in reward for this discovery a thousand guineas from the coal committee of Newcastle—men not likely to pay him for pirating another invention, nor easily deceived in such a manner. It may reasonably be asked, why then did these persons also present Davy with £2500 worth of plate for what appears to be the same discovery? This can be satisfactorily answered: they were led, perhaps, to believe, (from the cause attributed to them by the editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, a want of chemical knowledge,) that Sir H. Davy could do what Stephenson knew ought not to be attempted, and what Davy has failed to produce—a lamp which would enable them to employ their men without the danger of explosion in an inflammable, and, therefore, unhealthy atmosphere. For, after Sir H. Davy had produced three lamps—the blowing lamp, the piston lamp, and his first safety lamp, which he soon abandoned, evidently because, like Stephenson's, it was soon extinguished in an explosive mixture—he produced a fourth called the charcoal lamp. The blowing and piston lamps were imitations of Dr. Clanny's lamps, with trifling alterations—the safety lamp of Stephenson's, with the substitution of wire-gauze for perforated metal: the charcoal lamp, the one in present use, essentially differs from Stephenson's only in the removal of the glass cylinder. It is presumed that, after a relation of these facts, no comment need be made on the assertion by the committee, "that the principles of the Davy Lamp had been practically known to the witnesses, Clanny and Stephenson, before Davy brought his powerful mind to bear upon the subject," although a committee of the Royal Society, twenty years before, gave a different opinion. The next question, one of much more importance, is whether the Davy Lamp is as safe as represented by Sir H. Davy, or a failure in many important requisites—in fact, never more than an uncertain protector in an inflammable atmosphere? This question cannot be better answered than by a reference to the following extracts—*vide* Davy's pamphlet *On Flame*, page 8: speaking of his safety lamp, he says—"It will be unnecessary to dwell on preliminary and unsuccessful attempts, and I shall proceed to describe the origin and progress of those investigations which led me to the discovery of the principles by which explosion and flame may be arrested and regulated, and by means of which the miner is not only able to subdue and control, but likewise render useful, his most dangerous enemy." *Vide* the Parliamentary Committee's Report, after the examination of witnesses from all the mining districts, and an actual trial of the powers of his lamp, as before named, at the London University—"The attention of your committee has been drawn by different witnesses to contingencies in mining, under which the lamp of Sir H. Davy ceases to afford adequate protection. Of the possible existence and nature of these contingencies, your committee have ascertained that the inventor was well aware, and they regret that the caution he gave to some of his immediate friends was not made more public. Accidents have occurred where his lamp was in general and careful use; no one survived to tell the tale how these occurrences took place; conjecture supplied the want of knowledge most unsatisfactorily; but incidents are recorded which prove what must follow unreasonable testing of the security of that lamp; and your committee are constrained to believe that ignorance and a false reliance on its merits, in cases attended with unwarrantable risk, have led to disastrous consequences. The proofs selected in support of this opinion, may be considered so many warnings to the miners of England."—*Correspondent.*

TO THE ELECTORS OF NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

BROTHER ELECTORS,—The late Contest in this Division of the County has terminated greatly to your disgrace. A statesman has been lost to the House of Commons whose enlarged views of commercial legislation will be felt as a national calamity at this time. The causes* which have produced such an unfortunate result are the interference with the freedom of election by the Duke of Northumberland, and the prejudices to some extent existing amongst you against the proposed alterations of the Corn Laws. The first of these causes has operated most powerfully; but before I propose a remedy to counteract such influence, I will advert to the groundless fears which may yet exist upon the other.

You are told that if the Ministerial proposition upon the Corn Laws were adopted, there would be such an influx of foreign corn, that it would be impossible to cultivate the soil of this country for any length of time. To those who only look at *one* side of a question, such an assertion will appear perfectly consistent. Undoubtedly wheat can be grown upon the fertile soils of Poland and Prussia, and transported hither at a cost far below that at which it can be grown in this country. But the advantages which the British agriculturist would derive by allowing continental grown corn to be admitted at a low fixed duty, are so plain and obvious, that the man who is blind to them, must never have looked beyond the horizon which bounds his own locality—he must never have reflected upon the intimate connection which exists between agriculture and manufactures—he must be totally ignorant of that cosmopolitan philosophy, which points out the *wants* and *superfluities* of

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nations, and which shows the economy that can arrange those extremes, so that they may diffuse *universal* plenty. England is rich because of her manufacturing and commercial greatness. The producers of her wealth are crying aloud for bread. Poland is poor—her granaries are full of wheat, yet her people are fed upon rye-bread and potatoes. Why is this? Because she is without her Birminghams and her Manchesters. The iron hand of oppression long ago drove the weaver from the banks of the Rhine, the Elbe, and the Vistula. Our labourers are told to contrast their high wages with the serfs who sup krout upon the shores of the Baltic. But the cause of the disparity is studiously kept out of view. Our mines and minerals—the ingenuity, the activity, and the enterprise of our people—the genius of Hargreaves, Arkwright, and Watt—our insular situation—these and other advantages have given to us a superiority over every other nation. We behold our storerooms full of merchandize—the machinery of the manufacturer motionless—the millions who attend upon it idle and starving. Then why is all this? Because the iron hoop of monopoly has bound up every sluice—every channel of trade—so that the manufacturer cannot find a *free* market. He is shut out from the markets of Europe by the Corn Laws—from those of Cuba and the Brazils, by the monopoly of the sugar-market, enjoyed by the men to whom we paid twenty millions as the price of 800,000 slaves—while the farmers are injured by those obtacles which are thrown in the way of their customers, preventing them from earning wages wherewith to buy bread and butchers' meat. Let no man think that other countries have not their customs duties as well as we—that they will not retaliate upon us for preventing them finding a market for their staples by the prohibitory tax we impose upon them. We cannot grow corn sufficient to feed our population—other nations offer it to us in exchange for our manufactured articles—but a blind and crooked policy has hitherto prevented such an advantageous barter. Our soil is fixed, and cannot be removed—whereas capital, in the shape of machinery, can be exported to where it can be most profitably employed. Then in what condition would our baronial proprietors be left, were the great capitalists of Manchester, Paisley, and other manufacturing towns, to emigrate to other countries? England would be precisely in the condition in which it was during the feudal ages. Her yeomanry and "bold peasantry" would take the place of those foreign boors and serfs, who are boors and serfs only because they have no hives of industry amongst them. It is not because the quartern loaf would be purchased a penny cheaper—it is not because the expenses of our households would be lessened in the item of sugar—that the country will have cause to mourn the loss of such men in the House of Commons as Lord Howick. It is because there will be one great and comprehensive mind less to lead the way to a more extended commerce—to break down those barriers which prevent the industry of Britain from having full scope—from establishing commercial relations with other and distant people, that would ensure full employment and better wages to the artizan and the agricultural labourer. Allow me to recommend an attentive perusal of the evidence taken before the Import Duties Committee: it can be had of Mr. Horn, bookseller, Market-street, Newcastle, for fourpence.

The 8s. protective duty offered has been called the East Retford of the Corn Laws; and as certain as the sun shines in the heavens, the blind infatuation of the monopolists will cling to their "sliding scale," until their thermometer sinks down to zero—there to be fixed by the weight of public opinion, never to rise again. The sliding scale has made the farmer slide far enough: he has been sacrificed by it to the advantage of the speculators. The farmer has no control over the averages; and by *nominal* sales, these can be operated upon in such a manner as to enable the speculators to pour in their large supplies in the face of a new crop, while the sudden declension of price prevents any considerable quantity of foreign corn from being brought into the market; and the speculators, by a trick, find themselves released from "bond," with a sufficient quantity of wheat, at a duty of one or two shillings per quarter, to drive the home-grower out of the market. But the prejudices of the farmers are fast giving way—the speech of Lord Howick, on the nomination-day at Alnwick, laid bare those fallacies upon the sliding scale, by which slippery Sir Robert Peel is to slip into office, only to be ejected therefrom by the triumph of truth over sophistry. Yes! The principles of that great commercial statesman, Huskisson, are taking fast and firm root. A great change has come over men's minds since the time when he had to veil his opinions before the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in language the most guarded and ambiguous.

I will now advert to the other and principal cause which lost Lord Howick his election—the interference of the Duke of Northumberland. So long as men have power, so long will they be in danger of abusing it, if an object of ambition or interest is to be obtained. Splendid exceptions there certainly are to be found, of real patriotism and disinterestedness, amongst our wealthy aristocracy. The Earl of Stair, for instance. These few are men who think for themselves, men of comprehensive minds and sound judgment—while it is notorious that by far the greatest portion of what are called *noblemen*, are men of very weak and ill-cultivated intellects. Reared amongst their own "order"—surrounded by sycophants, and crafty, supple creatures, who flatter the *great*, so that they may the easier accomplish their own selfish ends—noblemen too often remain ignorant of the *real* state of things and the *real* opinions of those who wish to act honestly. The film upon their eyes is too thick to permit their visual organs to penetrate beyond the circle of their devotees; and should it be removed by some skilfulo culist, they are so unaccustomed to the sight of new objects, that they must have a preceptor to teach them their relation and properties. I will introduce one of these preceptors upon the stage immediately:—he is made of wood, but he will answer the purpose.

I believe the Duke of Northumberland to be a humane man—a man who, during his life, has relieved much suffering humanity—but he has always been looked upon as a very lame politician. When Castlereagh and Liverpool sowed the land with dragon's teeth, His Grace beheld them spring up, upon the banks of the Tyne, in the shape of *one hundred thousand armed men*. He was taken severely to task in the House of Lords for this stretch of imagination; and from that time till the passing of the Reform Bill, he was thought to have left State affairs to abler heads. During the great contest for the county in 1826, he was neutral—his bailiffs and tenants voted as they wished to vote. The memorable year of 1832 came, and his tenants and subordinates spoke and signed petitions in behalf of Parliamentary Reform; but some *unseen* hand roused His Grace from his neutrality, and copies of petitions, denouncing reform as revolution, were sent down to his Chief Commissioner, to be returned without delay, and to be as numerously but as *privately* signed as possible. Many of his *dependents* were in a sad dilemma. *Countersigning* was the order of the day. A few honourable men would not do violence to their conscience—*and the hand of oppression fell upon them.* Here was a lesson for the instruction of future nonconformists—a lesson which those who *ran* at the last election *read*—aye, and inwardly digested. Those who attempt to deny that the Duke of Northumberland used his powerful interest to destroy the independence of the North Division of the County, must admit that great liberties have been taken with His Grace's name. Who ordered the bailiffs out to canvass?

Now for the little wooden box that, unlike Pandora's, will provide a security against all the ills flowing from ducal oppression. The Ballot Box. Upon the morning of nomination, at Alnwick, I was speaking to a gentleman upon the salutary influence which the Ballot would exercise over elections, and asked why it was adopted in clubs if it were un-English. The gentleman replied, "To prevent duelling." Now, those who witnessed the scene upon the hustings upon the day of declaration must say that it looked very like a duel; and had not Mr. Robertson and my Lord Ossulston veiled their meaning in *Parliamentary language*, the "field of honour" must have been sought. And from what would the duel have arisen? From the want of the Ballot Box. Abstractedly speaking it would. The Wark voters, with five honourable exceptions, (the names of these five men ought to be written in letters of gold, and placed in front of the gallery of the House of Commons,) had been *made to break their promises*. Had these men had the protection of the Ballot, intimidation would have been employed upon them in vain, and Lord Ossulston and Mr. Robertson would not have become enraged at each other. Lord Howick himself advocated the Ballot from the hustings. You did, my Lord—you said that if Lord Ossulston had a box wherein he could drop a ball to decide upon who was to be his colleague, you were certain that it would be given in favour of yourself.

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But the many hundred yeomen who now walk abroad clad in the Duke's livery, will do more to procure the Ballot than millions of such men as stood with nerves of iron beside Thomas Attwood in the year 1832.

As an admirer of Mr. Cresswell's private character and domestic virtues—as one of those who have spoken, in public as well as in private, in praise of him as a landlord—as one amongst the many who consider that his absence from the county will be felt, more especially in the neighbourhood which he has adorned with those rural improvements which ought to mark the range of every country-gentleman's influence—I regret his election. But I regret it the more, when I consider that his political principles (and I give him credit for sincerity in these) will urge him to vote in support of a Ministry whose policy, if allowed to have sway, will entail ruin upon this country.

Another opportunity will soon be given you, to exercise your franchise; and those who have not the moral courage to vote according to their consciences, let them *reject* the franchise, or demand that shield which, like Gyges' ring, will render them invisible to those who would persecute them for conscience' sake. And if Lord Howick yet remains opposed to the Ballot, he must reject the evidence of his own senses, and be guilty of the folly of denying those constitutional weapons to his friends, which alone can destroy the unconstitutional power of his and their enemies. Then let your cry be—"The Ballot—the Ballot—the Ballot!"

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Bywell, July 20, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

* Perhaps I should have alluded to another cause—the defective state of the Registry. But I forbear. Means have been taken to guard against such negligence for the future.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,—I request you to accept my sincere and hearty thanks for the honour you have conferred upon me by electing me one of your Representatives in the Commons' House of Parliament.

I should have made this acknowledgment at an earlier period, had I not been desirous of explaining to you the course which the general state of the returns will make it my duty to pursue.

In order to do this the more clearly I must refer to some past events.

In the early part of last year, when a resolution declaring a want of confidence in the Government was brought forward, I distinctly announced the intention of proposing additional taxes to meet the increased expenditure of the country.

In the present year, so soon as the estimates had been completed, and the probable amount of the revenue could be calculated, her Majesty's Ministers took into their serious consideration the disparity which still existed between the income of the country and the cost of its establishments.

We found that the new taxes were not sufficient to supply the deficiency.

We were of opinion that we could not, with due regard to the honour and safety of the nation, reduce its naval and military forces.

But, upon a careful view of our commercial imposts, we came to the conclusion, that by removing prohibitions, and lessening restrictions, it was possible to replenish the Treasury, and at the same time to secure to the working classes a greater command of the necessaries of life, at steady and moderate prices.

The first measure brought forward on this subject was intended to give increased freedom of trade to our colonies. But in defending this measure, in a debate before Easter, I stated that the Cabinet were resolved to apply the same principle to our whole commercial policy, and had prepared propositions to carry their views into effect.

In the face of this declaration, it has been asserted that our commercial and financial plans were brought forward only because we had been defeated upon a clause in the Irish Qualification Bill.

It was difficult to refute our arguments—it was easy to misconstrue our motives; and those who were incapable of discovering reasons, have not been unequal to the labour of inventing facts.

Others have said that, with a precarious majority in the House of Commons, we ought not to have announced measures of such vast importance.

But had we resigned with a deficient revenue, and without pointing out the means of improving it, the same persons would, with far more justice, have accused us of being afraid to meet the difficulties we had caused, and of imposing upon our successors an unpopular or impracticable task.

It appeared to us, on the contrary, that it was our duty to lay before the House of Commons plans which we deemed beneficial. When defeated there, we advised her Majesty to appeal to the people at large.

As soon as the new Parliament meets, we shall take the first opportunity of asking for a clear and decided judgment upon the policy we have proposed.

The result of such an appeal may now be easily foreseen. In the English cities and boroughs there is a small majority in our favour. In the Scotch cities and boroughs, a very decisive majority the same way. In the Irish boroughs and counties there is also a majority in favour of the policy of the present ministers. In the Scotch counties the majority will be the other way; and in the English counties that majority will be overwhelming.

To those who recollect Lord Stanley's description of our English county representation, or who have observed the effect of the Chandos clause of the Reform Act, this result will not be at all surprising. It should be added, however, that the manufacturing districts have not, as might have been expected, tended to restore the Balance. As no Ministers of the Crown can stand without the confidence of the House of Commons, our retirement from office will immediately follow the condemnation of our policy. In this altered position it would be inconsistent with my notions of public duty to harrass the Government of the day by vexatious opposition; still less to deny to the crown the means of maintaining the reputation of the country abroad and internal quiet at home.

But when the great principles of religious, civil, and commercial liberty come into question, those principles must be firmly and fearlessly supported. Whatever party may be in power, they are so inseparably connected with the progress of society, that—although the country may doubt, may pause, may ponder—it will examine, discuss, and finally adopt them.

I am encouraged to this conviction by former victories.

Out of power, we obliged our opponents to abolish those tests by which political office was made exclusive and a religious sacrament profaned.

Out of power, we forced our adversaries themselves to free the Roman Catholics from those disabilities which they had declared indispensable for the maintenance of the Constitution and the safety of the Church.

In power, we obliged those who had refused to allow representatives of Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, to sit in the House of Commons, to submit to a much larger and more sweeping measure of reform.

In power, we obtained the sanction of Parliament to the abolition of slavery in our Colonies.

In power, we have destroyed the monopoly of privileges in our municipal corporations.

In power, we have carried into practical effect the principles of equality of civil privileges between Protestants and Roman Catholics, and have thereby secured to the Crown the affectionate loyalty of the people of Ireland.

None of these measures received the hearty assent of the main body of our opponents: to several they opposed a violent and persevering resistance. But truth triumphed over them, and will again. Returned to office, they may adopt our measures, and submit to the influence of reason; or, if they refuse to do so, they will be obliged to relinquish power, and the monopoly of trade will share the fate of religious intolerance and political exclusion.

But for the attainment of this object it is necessary to be vigilant and united—to oppose zeal to zeal—to watch minute details as well as to maintain great principles: in short, to exert, for a great and salutary end, the same untiring activity which has been exhibited in a more questionable cause.

As we do not distrust the justness of the measures we have proposed, let not temporary failure check our perseverance.

I am well aware, indeed, that in the city of London, and in some other places, great exertions have been made, and large sacrifices incurred, in behalf of this cause. Nor can I conclude without again expressing my grateful sense of the support I have re-

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ceived in the late unexpected, and, in many respects, unexampled contest.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and faithful Servant,
Minto, July 19, 1841. J. RUSSELL.

NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND ELECTION.

Polling Places.	Total polled.	Total Votes.			Plumpers.				Splits.			
		H.	O.	C.	H.	O.	C	Total	H.	O.	C.	Total
Alnwick.....	826	327	526	529	247	9	14	270	80	517	515	557
Berwick.....	410	298	157	116	242	5	2	249	56	152	114	161
Elsdon.....	156	75	79	94	55	3	6	64	20	76	88	92
Morpeth.....	453	221	212	287	164	3	19	186	57	209	268	267
Wooler.....	346	180	242	137	98	32	3	133	82	210	134	213
Total..	2191	1101	1216	1163	806	52	44	902	295	1164	1119	1290

Howick split with Ossulston....170—with Cresswell..125—total.. 295
Ossulston split with Cresswell...994—with Howick....170—total..1164
Cresswell split with Ossulston...994—with Howick....125—total..1119

A CALM AT SEA.

The sails hang loosely by the mast,
The breeze has died away:
The mid-day watch is coming fast,
And much we fear a calm, to last
The sultry summer's day.

"Brail up the mainsail tack!" No breath
Of stirring wind appears:
The smoke ascends in spiral wreath,
Old ocean now as still as death,
The ship no longer steers.

The helmsman's song is done: the vane
Has ceased to flutter round:
The sailor's whistle—which they feign
Will call the welcome breeze again—
Appears the only sound.

"Let go the spencer-sheet! and, boy!
Clean glasses set below,
The idle moment to employ:
A glass of grog we may enjoy,
And wish the wind to blow."

And kindly thoughts bring kindly toasts,
While mention's made of home:
As each some fair one's fondness boasts,
All seem to reckon up, by hosts,
The happy hours to come.

A stir on deck! that song again!
What can the reason be?
"Brace up the yards!" The matter's plain,
So now let pleasure keep her reign—
The catskin's on the sea.

Schooner *Lavinia*, May 24, 1841. JOHN LUKE CLENNELL.

LORD DURHAM AND HIS TRADUCERS.

To "NORTH DURHAM."—The late Lord Durham *did* declare in his place in Parliament, that, though appointed by his father-in-law to the sinecure office of "Privy Seal," he would not touch a farthing of the stipend. He did abstain for the first year, but afterwards he was content to pocket the salary, arrears and all. Few public men were more costly to the State than the Reforming Lord Durham. His missions to Russia, and his government in Canada, (which were jobs of the most flagrant description,) were attended with a profligacy and scale of expense without example in the history of this country.—*Newcastle Journal, July 24.*

We have not been led to notice this paragraph from any apprehension that the mercenary calumnies of the *Journal's* proprietors can injure Lord Durham's fame. That is now beyond the reach either of obloquy or of panegyric. We refer to the passage because we think that it is right to keep before the mind of the public the reckless mendacity, and unmitigated heartlessness, with which the self-styled champions of Church and State seek to sustain their newspaper and their cause. In the above-quoted paragraph there is scarcely an assertion compatible with honesty or with truth. Lord Durham "did" *not* "declare in his place in Parliament" that he would not touch one farthing of the stipend attached to the office of Privy Seal. The statement is a misrepresentation. It is not true. Two members of Lord Grey's Cabinet in 1829—Lord Durham *and the Duke of Richmond*—on taking office, proposed (to their colleagues) to do so without salary. This intention, after the Whig Cabinet had reduced all official salaries, was objected to by the other members of the Government, who pointed out that if such a course was recognized as a public duty, it cast a reflection on themselves—and if not sanctioned by such obligations, it was very undesirable, since it would place in a painful and invidious position the parties who might thereafter succeed to the offices of Postmaster General and Privy Seal. On these considerations, both the noblemen in question abandoned their original design, and received their official salaries, as reduced by the Reform Government.

The writer in the *Journal* endeavours to aggravate his unworthy charge against Lord Durham, by speaking of the office of Privy Seal as "a sinecure." The duties attached to that office are undoubtedly little more than nominal, but we apprehend that the duties which belong to every member of a Cabinet, especially in times of great difficulty and derangement, are neither nominal nor easily discharged; and as the Lord Privy Seal is necessarily a Cabinet Minister, and an important officer of the Court, the insinuation that Lord Durham was paid for a sinecure appointment is also in its spirit a falsehood. We believe that Lord Westmoreland, who preceded Lord Durham in this office, and who received a larger salary with it, made it a sinecure. As a Cabinet Minister he was completely a cipher. His Lordship's chief occupation seemed to be galloping from one public office to another—for which arduous employment of his faculties he obtained from the public a large salary, and the soubriquet of "The Flying Privy." Every one knows that Lord Durham was no unimportant member of Lord Grey's Cabinet.

The office is at the present moment virtually suppressed, being held by Lord Clarendon in conjunction with the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster. We trust the *Journal* will continue to brand it as a sinecure, when Sir Robert Peel shall revive it for the satisfaction of one of the cormorants now besetting him.

Lord Durham's mission to Russia, as British Ambassador, cost the State as much as that of Lord Heytesbury—and no more. There was no difference between them, except that Lord Durham gave dignity and honour to the high office by the manner in which he executed its duties; whereas Lord Heytesbury's butler would have represented the Majesty of Britain at the Court of St. Petersburg quite as effectively as his master.

The next allegation of the *Journal*—that Lord Durham's mission to Canada was "a job of the most flagrant description," and was "attended with a profligacy and scale of expense without example in the history of this country," may well be permitted to pass without any comment or refutation. Every body knows that the Canadas were in a state of half-suppressed insurrection when Lord Durham proceeded to America; and that Lord Ashburton, who understood the question well, and who always did justice to Lord Durham on this subject, considered the prospect of reconciliation was desperate. Nevertheless, such was the wisdom, and vigour, and manifest honesty of Lord Durham's Government, that five half-rebellious, wholly-discontented and disorganized colonies, were, as if by miracle, brought back to a state of contented allegiance to the British Crown. Lord Durham injured his private fortune by the munificence with which he sustained the character of the representative of his Sovereign in America, but he received a very economical outfit, and not one sixpence of salary from the State. We will venture to say, that Lord Durham's best friends never did justice to the astonishing exertion and success of his Canadian mission. By the public its merits were not appreciated—they were never understood: but if Lord Durham had been distinguished by nothing else, we have no hesitation in saying, that his great public services as Governor of British America would assign him a very high rank among the benefactors of his country.

Shall we prolong our observations by one word addressed to the writer of the paragraph before us? Death canonizes its victims in the minds of the generous and the good. Men of honour and of feeling cannot behold even the object of their fiercest hostility lie down for ever in the darkness and solitude of the grave, without some compunctious remembrance of the strife in which they were once engaged—without, from that moment, utterly dismissing every harsh and unkindly sentiment which they cherished towards a living opponent. Inherent baseness alone seeks to carry its vengeance and injuries beyond the tomb. The writer of the paragraph in question must have known that the greater part of the evil he has here spoken of Lord Durham was slanderous and false. Suppose that Lord

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Durham, when living, did not deserve either to be honoured by his country or to be beloved and reverenced by his friends—suppose that he had not left behind him a family whose sorrow over his early grave was yet unassuaged by tears—can he really find pleasure in libelling the unoffending, the unresisting, the dead? Oh it is not without pregnant meaning that poets of eastern countries tell of a race of beings who, with human shape, have little of nature kindred with humanity—who haunt the depositaries of the departed, and satiate a foul and horrible appetite, and sustain an obscene existence, by preying on the mouldering remains of defenceless humanity!

JUDICIAL OATHS.

Mr. Hepburn Thompson, of Messrs. Backhouse's bank, Sunderland, was placed in the witness box, but declined to be sworn. He was a Quaker, he said, by persuasion, but not a member of the Society of Friends. He was ready to give evidence on affirmation.

Judge Denman replied, that he could not be accepted as a witness on those terms, as he was not a member of the Society of Friends.

Mr. Otter: He is a Quaker by persuasion, my Lord, and attends the meetings of the Friends.

Judge Denman: So may you or I attend their meetings, Mr. Otter, but that would not make us members of their Society. I am verry sorry, but I must decline to take the gentleman's evidence. I am aware that the rule deprives the country of the testimony of peculiarly valuable, because scrupulously conscientious witnesses.—*Report of a trial at Durham Assizes, July* 27, 1840.

The conduct of Mr. Hepburn Thompson, on Tuesday last, will be viewed in different lights by different minds. Some, without proper reflection, or from a defective conscientiousness, will term him squeamish and scrupulous-overmuch, and accuse him of withholding important evidence in too tender deference to his private convictions. But an honest man can know of one only rule of action—he can obey alone his own sense of right and wrong.

The fault is not with such men as Mr. Thompson, that their country is defrauded of "testimony of peculiar value, because the testimony of scrupulously conscientious witnesses:" the fault is with the law—the absurd and mischievous law regarding the acceptance of evidence in courts of justice; and we are not sorry when such scenes as those of Tuesday last occur at our assizes, to fix the public eye upon the impolicy of the present system of oaths and affirmations.

This system we would abolish. We would not require an affirmation even—much less an oath. It is injurious to the cause of morality, to encourage a feeling in the public mind that truth is less obligatory at one time than at another: yet this is the inevitable, the actual effect of our practice in courts of law and justice.

To require from a man in a witness-box, an oath, or an affirmation, that he will speak the truth, is to teach him that he is more especially bound, on that particular occasion than on others, to abstain from falsehood. But surely we should all be taught to feel that we are equally bound, at all times, and under every circumstance, to speak the truth, as standing continually in the presence of that Great Judge whose name is more particularly invoked before human tribunals.

We build our strongest objection to oaths and affirmations on this solid ground.

We see great evil in the retention of the present system—little or none in its abolition. Does any one suppose that the existing law protects the country from false testimony? Why, the man must have been a very inattentive spectator of the trials at Durham, in the present week, who failed to detect gross falsehood in the evidence of sworn witnesses. Persons there were, who, having called Heaven to mark their words, yet dared to utter statements which no sane man could possibly believe to be true.

If oaths and affirmations were abolished, we should still have the power of punishing perjury. To speak falsely in a court of justice, might be rendered penal, though no oath or affirmation were administered.

We trust to see the law amended. We have made these few hurried remarks under the pressure of many engagements, because we could not, consistently with our feelings, pass the subject by unnoticed. But we cannot now pursue it further.

THE WESLEYANS AND THE CHURCH.

We have seldom met with anything that pleased us better than the rebuke administered by Lord Brownlow, a Tory nobleman, to certain crawling Conservatives, members of the Wesleyan Church, who offered to barter their electioneering influence for a few yards of ground. We are indebted for this pleasure to a Tory contemporary, the *Nottingham Journal*. In that paper we find the following correspondence:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NOTTINGHAM JOURNAL.

Sir,—I beg to enclose you an authentic copy of a letter addressed by certain self-styled loyal and constitutional Wesleyan Methodists of Gainsborough to Lord Brownlow, and his lordship's manly and independent answer. At the head of these political religionists is one Mr. Spencer, who combines the office of chemist as well as that of itinerant preacher. To show how little religion has to do with these *political quacks*, they ask for this piece of land just at the time of his lordship's son (the Hon. Mr. Cust) standing a contest for the county. Had Lord Brownlow's answer been favourable to these *loyal* and *Conservative* Methodists, they would have voted in his son's favour; but because his lordship does not, for a few votes, barter his religious principles, these meek pastors, to a man, vote against him!

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

A Looker-on.

LETTER TO LORD BROWNLOW.

My Lord,—Having been requested to give up our possession of the small chapel which we have occupied for many years at Torksey, we find ourselves greatly in want of a new one for the use of the Wesleyan Methodists of that village. Your lordship is fully aware that the chief part of the people called by the name of Methodists, like their highly-respected founder, the Rev. John Wesley, have ever been distinguished by their zealous and firm adherence to Conservatism and loyal principles. We, the undersigned, therefore beg leave to inform your lordship, that in our judgment *it would greatly promote among our people the interests of the Hon. Mr. Cust*, who is expected at Gainsborough on Tuesday next, if we could be allowed by your lordship to say you will favour us with a small piece of ground somewhere in the village of Torksey for the above purpose. We should be glad to purchase it, to have it on lease, or in any way in which your lordship may be disposed to grant our request. The number of the Wesleyan Methodists in the Gainsborough circuit is at this time upwards of 1,300, and of this number there are 20 who reside in Torksey. Hoping your lordship will be enabled to favour us in this instance, and also to oblige us by a reply before Tuesday, the 29th instant,

We have the honour to remain,

Your lordship's obedient servants,

H. Ranson.

T. Spencer.

P.S.—There is a report in circulation that your lordship does not fully admit the principles of religious toleration, as now recognized by the laws of England, which, by granting us the above favour, your lordship would enable us happily to resist and refute.

LORD BROWNLOW'S ANSWER.

Sir,—Your letter of the 25th ult. has only reached me by the post of this morning, or it would have met with an earlier acknowledgment. In reply to your application for land to build a Wesleyan chapel at Torksey, I have to say, that, with every sentiment of good-will and of perfect toleration towards the Wesleyan Methodists, I must decline compliance with your request, inasmuch as it is not consistent with my principles of attachment to the Established Church to contribute to the propagation of dissent from her discipline and worship. I can take no notice of unbecoming rumours which have no foundation, *neither can I enter into any compromise of religious principles with reference to the possible results of an election.*

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

To the Rev. H. Ranson. Brownlow.

How thoroughly Lord Brownlow must have despised the lickspittle letter-writers who insulted him with their base proposal. The aristocracy of the Wesleyan Church would fain be hand and glove with their neighbours of the Establishment, but even those who, unlike Lord Brownlow, are not above "making use of" the Wesleyan sycophants, are still disgusted with their subserviency.

THE TORIES AND THE COAL TRADE.

The Tory coalowners must be on the look-out. The Whigs are on the eve of losing the power of continuing that "protection" to the Coal Trade which they have hitherto afforded. The Liberal Administration abolished the export duty; and if we may judge of the intentions of Tory Ministers-expectant by the howlings of their understrappers, we may prepare ourselves for a re enactment of the very duties by whose abolition the foreign Coal Trade of the country has been so astonishingly increased.

The Tory papers are already accusing Lord Palmerston of "treachery"—(the old story)—because he has allowed the Belgians to have our coal duty-free, and thereby enabled them to manufacture machinery, and undersell us! The Tories are sad blunderers. Although the export of coal to foreign countries has increased since the repeal of the duty in 1834, from 630,444 tons (the export of 1833) to 1,592,530 tons (the export of 1840), it so happens that there has been less coal sent to Belgium than to any other of the countries enumerated in the official list—

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the total quantity sent thither during the six years that have elapsed since the repeal of the duty being only 19,814 tons—which would have yielded, at the old duty of 4s. per ton, £3,962, or an average of £660 a-year!—a pretty ground, indeed, for charging Ministers with "treachery," or for asserting that the manufactures of Belgium have been encouraged by Lord Palmerston to the destruction of our own!

But we again caution the good Tory coalowners of the North against the "friends" whom they have been so warmly supporting at the late elections. Where would the profits of some of them have been, we should like to know, if the export trade had not been encouraged by the repeal of the duty. The following fact may possibly awaken them to a sense of their danger:—

	TONS.
In 1833, Newcastle, Sunderland, and Stockton exported	410,448
In 1840, those three ports exported	1,156,353
Being an increase of	745,905

Or upwards of 180 per cent.!

The Tory talk about Belgium is ridiculous. The coal exported thither is scarcely more than sufficient for the steamboats:—moreover, the demand is falling off—the quantity exported last year being only 4,506 tons, whilst in 1839 it was 7,004!

Belgium is a coal country, as these Tory fault-finders might have known, had they asked any of their children who may happen to go to school. Aye, and they might also have very easily discovered, that but for the abolition of the export duty, the North of England would have entirely lost the supply of Holland with coal—a supply which, it may be serviceable to our Tory neighbours to inform them, amounted last year to 203,131 tons.

The Tyne and Wear coalowners, in particular, should keep in mind, that the *foreign* Coal Trade bears an alarming proportion to the *whole* trade. From the port of Newcastle, last year, 583,041 tons were sent to foreign ports, and 2,267,082 tons coastwise; and from Sunderland, 442,095 tons were sent foreign, whilst only 867,777 tons were shipped coastwise.

Again we ask the Tory supporters of the Peels and the Wellingtons if they are prepared to "restrict" their "vends" still further, by sacrificing the foreign Coal Trade of the kingdom to the anti-national purposes of a monopolizing faction.

As an instructive illustration of the "restrictive" system hitherto so fatally acted upon by the northern coalowners, and so frequently remonstrated against and condemned in our columns—and as an additional proof of the value of the "free trade" in coal to foreign countries which the Whigs granted and the Tories always resisted, we are enabled to lay before our readers a circular letter, which has been addressed, within these few weeks, to the coal-consumers of the metropolis:—

NEW COAL.

Clayeross Coal Wharf, Camden Town, June, 1841.

The public are respectfully informed, (owing to the facilities offered by railway-transit in connection with the canals,) that extensive arrangements are now complete, for the supply of the London demand of this valuable new coal of the first class—the Clayeross Coal—which may now be had from the wharf (the colliery depot), Camden Town, at 27s. per ton, delivered.—Agent, John Jones, Clayeross Coal Wharf, Camden Town.

N.B.—The Clayeross coal is equal to the best Wallsend.

So truly ominous a document requires neither note nor comment! The "Clayeross Coal" is one of the children of the "Combination"—and one of a very numerous family, too, the coalowners may be assured.

THE GREYS OF HOWICK.

A MALICIOUS blockhead, in the *Newcastle Journal* of last Saturday, had the audacity to state the following as "historical facts":—

1. That "Sir Thomas Grey, *of Howick*, was executed for high treason, (temp. Henry V.)"
2. That "Thomas Grey, *of Howick*, put his name second to the death-warrant of Charles I."
3. That "the present Earl Grey, when member for Northumberland, was chairman of a *treasonable* society, called the Friends of the People, (temp. George III.)"

Three specimens of more downright lying never appeared, even in the columns of the Duke of Northumberland's very *respectable* paper. And before we are done we shall show this secret servitor of the Smithsons that his "historical facts" are just about as creditable to the Duke and his electioneering allies, as his Grace's double-dealing with Lord Howick in reference to the late North Northumberland contest. The following are the real "facts" which the Duke's journal has so infamously misrepresented:—

1. The Sir Thomas Grey who was executed for high treason (temp. Henry V.) was not "*of Howick*," but of "*Heton and Wark*," son of Sir Thomas Grey, of Chillingham, and ancestor of the Duke of Northumberland's turnspit—LORD OSSULSTON!
2. The "Thomas Grey" who "put his name second to the death-warrant of Charles I.," was not "Thomas Grey, *of Howick*," but Thomas Lord Grey, *of Groby*, son of the first and father of the second Earl of Stamford, and uncle to the third Earl, from whom the present Lord Stamford, the Tory tyrant of the late South Leicestershire election, is descended.
3. The "Society of the Friends of the People," which was established in 1792, and to which the present Earl Grey belonged, so far from being a "treasonable" association, was a society instituted for the lawful purpose "of proposing to parliament and to the country, and of promoting to the utmost of its power, a restoration of the 'FREEDOM OF ELECTION,' and a more equal representation of the people in parliament"—objects which had been avowed and supported by Lord Chatham, by the Duke of Richmond, by Mr. Locke and Judge Blackstone, by Sir George Savile, by the Marquis of Lansdowne, by Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox—objects, too, which the Reform Bill—the bill supported by Mr. Hodgson Hinde in the House of Commons—was introduced and enacted for the express purpose of carrying out—but objects, at the same time, which sufficiently account for the piece of parasitical malevolence which we have exposed.

So much for the "historical facts" of this puny traducer.* But if history is to be ransacked—if the ancestors of individuals are to be dragged from their graves as evidence of the criminality of their descendants—let us see how the present possessor of the titles and estates of the Percys would have stood affected, had he been a Percy instead of a Smithson. As the information we are about to give will, no doubt, be new to him, we trust he will order it to be supplied to his tenants in their gratis copies of next Saturday's *Journal*. We read, then, in history—

1. That Richard de Percy (temp. Henry III.) robbed his nephew of his inheritance.
2. That the first Earl of Northumberland (temp. Henry IV.) perished in battle, in rebellion against his king.
3. That the brother of the said Earl was beheaded as a rebel.
4. That the son of the said Earl fell fighting against his sovereign.
5. That a son of the fifth Earl was executed as a rebel, (temp. Henry VII.)
6. That the seventh Earl was "brought to the scaffold for his rebellion," (temp. Elizabeth).
7. That Thomas Percy, of the house of Northumberland, was engaged with Catesby in the Gunpowder Plot, (temp. James I.)
8. That the ninth Earl was sentenced to imprisonment for life in the Tower, for alleged connivance in the "plot" with his kinsman.
9. That the tenth Earl was Lord High Admiral of the "parliament" against Charles the First, but, afterwards, resigned the command.

Such are a few "historical facts," showing (to use the calumniator's own words) "how little kings and queens are indebted to the patriotic and disinterested house" of Percy. Whether any countervailing services may have been rendered to Royalty by the Smithsons, we cannot say—*history* affording no clue to the discovery, and *tradition* having applied the "*whip*" to the family less gently than we feel disposed to do. After all, we can only laugh at the ignorance which drags discussion, upon the comparative loyalty of ancestors, before the public. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof—and sufficient for the individual are the sins of which he has himself been guilty. And even these may be repented of and atoned for. Suppose the case of a man, (some venal scribbler, for instance,) who, in early life, failed in "loyalty" to his creditors. Such a person may outlive his difficulties, and re-appear, with all the semblance of solvency, before the world. To charge him with "treachery" would be ungenerous—but to upcast to him any defalcations of which his ancestors had been guilty, would be a piece of retrospective vengeance—an act of *ex-post-facto* injustice, which could not be too severely condemned!

* The story about "coloured clothes," is too ridiculous to notice here, but, in order to please the Duke, we have transferred it to that portion of our paper which is most suited to *His Grace's* capacity, "The Old Woman's Corner."

GATESHEAD BOROUGH PROPERTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Having noticed, for a long time past, your reports of the claims, made by one party of of the boroughholders, to a right to sell or divide the lands belonging to them as a public body, and the determined resistance made to such an appropriation by another party equally entitled to such

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supposed right, allow a few words to a distant observer, who can have no possible interest on either side, further than an earnest desire that no *unnecessary* (let alone *unjust*) encroachment upon the few spots of common lands still left as the "lungs of the Borough," as the parks of London have been emphatically termed, should be tamely submitted to.

In directing the attention of the householders of your borough to a matter of vital importance to themselves and their posterity, I will offer no opinion of my own, but would entreat their attentive perusal of an article in that popular work the *Penny Cyclopædia*—an elaborate and an able paper, drawn up, undoubtedly, by one of the framers of the Municipal Reform Act. Whether the ancient borough of Gateshead is one of those aimed at in p. 204, col. 2, line 4, article "Borough," let those interested judge.

"As the vitiation (says the writer) of the municipal constitutions of the towns had been requisite to prepare the way for their political prostration, so their political emancipation to so large an extent opened the way towards municipal regeneration."

And at line 19:—"And, above all, the vesting of the franchise substantially in the inhabitant householders—all combined to exhibit, in strong relief, the great defects of the yet standing corporation system.—The almost superstitious reverence for the mysterious character attributed to corporations—a reverence which the mystic language of crown lawyers respecting them had constantly been cherishing—was now utterly dissolved, and men were in a condition to place coolly, side by side, in their contemplation, the proper and legitimate ends of town-government itself, and the character of the associated bodies which asserted an imprescriptive right, as the only instrument for attaining those ends."

Now, although this may more properly apply to such boroughs as Newcastle than to Gateshead, yet that the boroughholders, or corporation, once exercised municipal functions, is very probable. That they ceased to do so for many years, appears to make their case worse, inasmuch as they still continued to collect the borough revenue, without troubling themselves about the *ends* for which the *means* in the original charter had been granted them.

The article proceeds as if it had been written *in* and *for* your borough:—"One singular result of the *mystery* which, for purposes which we have already sufficiently indicated, had been thrown about the end and being of a corporation, now became distinctly apparent. So little, it should seem, had it been understood, that good local government should be the primary object of this body's existence, that in the local Acts of Parliament which in later times have been passed for the improvement of nearly all the considerable towns, the superintendence of the police, and the powers necessary for watching, paving, lighting, cleansing, and *supplying the towns with water*, instead of being entrusted to the municipal authorities (boroughholders, &c.), had, for the most part, been committed to various distinct and independent bodies, although none of these towns were too extensive to be embraced by one system of municipal government. Not, indeed, that the inhabitants in any case desired that their municipal authorities (boroughholders) should exercise these new powers," &c.

To follow out the article would be to give a history of the negative virtues of the *should-have-been* corporation of Gateshead. That this account of the maladministration of public revenues is applicable to Gateshead, seems feasible in several instances. First, *supplying the town with water*.—Where were the boroughholders, the receivers of the public revenue for the public good, when the Water Company of Newcastle purchased the water-ponds in the borough at Carr Hill—passed their pipes along their bridge and through their streets, to supply at an enormous profit a great town with one of the first elements of life, leaving the people, whose public guardians they ought to have been, totally neglected? And where were the funds, when wanted, to give a temporary relief of water to the poor in the shape of one solitary "pant," open three times a week at the back of the workhouse? Where! Why, *legitimately consumed*, by fair proportions amongst themselves, after deducting the expense of their stated feasts! This was the way (in my time) that the public funds were disposed of; and the poor temporary relief of water, as above, was paid for by a subscription begged from door to door. In fact, as this article forcibly asserts, such a measure as an application of any part of their funds to public purposes, was regarded as a spontaneous act of private generosity, rather than a well-considered application of the public revenue;" and the writer goes on to say "that the transition from the opinion that corporate property was held in trust for the corporate body *only*, distinct from the *community* with which it was locally connected, was so natural, that they next acted on the principle that individual corporators might justifiably derive a personal advantage from the corporate property; and accordingly" we find at Cambridge (Gateshead, they might have added,) that the practice of turning the *corporation property to the profit of individuals* was avowed and defended before the Municipal Commissioners, by a member of the common council.

Not in the case of supply of water only were the boroughholders never heard of as such, but also in the acts for improvements in the streets and lanes—lighting, watching, &c. All, all is negation, so far as public utility is concerned.

If to this list of negative properties is now to be added the positive evil of utterly destroying the remains of municipal property left for public uses, it remains for those who take an interest in the public welfare to warn those disposed to assist them in such a project, of the danger they run of losing whatever money may be expended in building on such a title. The council (p. 213) are not permitted to sell, mortgage, or alienate any part of the borough lands, tenements, or hereditaments; and leases granted by them are to be for a term not exceeding 31 years from date of the lease, except for buildings, when the lease must not exceed 75 years, except by an application to the Lords of the Treasury, giving notice, &c.

Now, Sir, on a retrospective view of the application of the borough funds for a series of years by-gone, will it not appear, to any disinterested person, a most uncalled for extension of misrule in them to persist in their present designs—a total disregard to any other number than "number one?" That they are, individually, respectable and honourable members of society, is granted; but in conclave met, they much resemble General Lambton's Dean and Chapter punch. The ingredients spoil each other. Again disclaiming any other intention than a fond wish to have some part of the healthy breathing spots, cherished in youth, preserved for future generations to enjoy, I shall conclude this intrusion on your columns with again recommending a careful perusal of the article in the work before named, which gives a clear history of the rise, progress, use, and abuses of the corporations, and the remedies applied by the Municipal Reform Act.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

AN OLD GATESIDER.

Regent's Park, London, June 30, 1841.

AT a PUBLIC MEETING, held in the Guildhall, Newcastle, to take into Consideration the Destitute State of the Unemployed Operatives and Labourers of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Neighbourhood, (The Right Worshipful JOHN RIDLEY, Esq., Mayor, in the Chair,) it was resolved unanimously:—

On the motion of Mr. Anthony Nichol,
Seconded by Mr. George Bargate,

That a Committee be formed to inquire into and report upon the state of the working classes, now suffering from want of employment, with a view to their relief.

On the motion of Mr. William Lockey Harle,
Seconded by Mr. George Straker,

That such Committee consist of the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Newcastle, the Sheriff of Newcastle, the Mayor of Gateshead, the Vicar of Newcastle, the Rector of Gateshead, Dr. White, and Messrs. James Losh, Clapham, Greenhow, Bargate, Hotham, Robinson, Wallace, Straker, Burrell, M. L. Jobling, John Nichol, W. R. Swan, Joseph Pollard, W. H. Brockett, J. T. Edgecome, G. T. Dunn, J. H. Preston, A. L. Potter, Thomas Cargill, A. Donkin, William Chapman, C. J. Bigge, Joseph Grote, John Clayton, George Scarlett, H. Ingledew, C. Allhusen, James Hodgson, A. Nichol, J.P., R. P. Philipson, Robert Plummer, Joseph Crawhall, Robert Hawthorn, W. L. Harle, James Sillick, and Stephen Lowrey, with power to add to their numbers.

On the motion of Mr. Edgcome,
Seconded by Mr. Robert Robinson,

That a public subscription be forthwith entered into, for the relief of cases of urgency. JOHN RIDLEY, Mayor.

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On the motion of Mr. W. H. Brockett,
Seconded by Mr. George Straker,
That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Mayor, for his readiness in calling the meeting, and for his conduct in the chair.

The following Subscriptions have been already received:—

	£.	s.
The Mayor of Newcastle	5	0
The Sheriff	3	3
Mr. J. T. Edgecome	3	3
Dr. White	3	3
Mr. James Losh	3	3
Mr. Robert Robinson	3	3
Mr. James Hodgson	3	3
Mr. James Sillick	3	3
Mr. R. P. Philipson	3	3
Mr. Stephen Lowrey	2	2
Mr. John Clayton	3	3
Mr. T. M. Greenhow	2	2
Mr. M. L. Jobling	2	2
Mr. Joseph Pollard	2	2
Mr. William Hotham	1	0
Mr. W. Lockey Harle	1	0
Mr. W. H. Brockett	1	0
Mr. George Straker	2	2
Mr. Burrell	2	2
Mr. John Nichol	1	0
Mr. R. W. Swan	2	2
Mr. George Bargate	1	1
Mr. Anthony Nichol	2	2
Mr. Emerson Charnley	2	2
Mr. Matthew Plues	1	1
Mr. T. Taylor	2	2
Mr. John H. Preston	2	2
Mr. Geo. Scarlett	2	2
Messrs. R. & W. Hawthorn	5	0
Rich. Grainger, Esq.	3	3
Mr. Robt. Wallace	2	2
Mr. Jos. Garnett	1	1
The Rev. the Vicar of Newcastle	3	3
M. Clayton, Esq.	3	3
Messrs. Nesham & Annandale	2	2
Proprietors of the Great Northern Advertiser	2	2
Mr. Joseph Crawhall	2	2
Messrs. Anderson & Fairbairn	3	3
Mr. Jas. Harrison	0	5
Joseph Lamb, Esq.	5	0
Mr. J. Wardle	0	10
Mr. Christian Allhusen	3	3
Mr. Lawrence Hewison	2	2
Mr. Malin Sorsbie	2	2
Mr. John Sillick	5	0
Mr. Geo. Parratt, Pudding-chare	1	1
Wm. Ord, Esq., M.P.	21	0
S. W. Parker, Esq.	3	3
Messrs. M. Plummer & Greenwell	3	3
Mr. Wm. Heaton	1	1
Sir I. Greenwell	1	1
Joseph Grote, Esq.	3	3
Mr. Thos. Cargill	3	3
Mr. Wm. Cargill	3	3
Mr. Joshua Johnson	3	3
Northumberland & Durham District Bank	10	10
J. M. Chapman, Esq.	2	2
Mr. J. L. Forster	0	10
Newcastle, Shields, and Sunderland Union Bank	5	0
Wm. Chapman, Esq.	2	0
Mr. James Robson	0	10
Mr. John Adamson	2	2
Mr. John Akenhead	2	2
Mr. Wm. Johnson	1	1
Rev. H. W. Wright	1	1
Mr. H. Ridley	1	0
Mr. Ralph Dodds	2	2
Mr. S. Stokoe, Jun.	2	2
Mr. James Finlay	2	2

Rev. R. W. L. Jones, 10s. 6d.
Workmen of Mr. Wallace's Pottery, Skinners' Burn.. 17s. 1d,

Subscriptions received by all the Banks; at Mr. Wm. Heaton's, Sandhill; Mr. E. Charnley's, Bigg Market; at the Exchange News Room, Sandhill; Central Exchange News Room, &c., &c., by

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The committee for the relief of the unemployed operatives of Newcastle, have been able to relieve numerous applicants during the past week. On Saturday 52 men, Monday 102, Tuesday 157, Wednesday 226, Thursday 285, and yesterday 203, were at work in clearing and deepening the ditches of the race-course on the moor. The wages given are a shilling per day, and the readiness with which this small allowance is accepted displays a spirit of superiority to pauperism, highly creditable to the operatives. As we stated last week, the work on the moor is being done out of the individual subscriptions of the public. The Corporation grant of £500 is to be applied to the improvement of the Neville street road, and to the levelling of the cattle-market—and several men are already at work there.

"The committee (we quote their last report) refer with pleasure to the good feeling and orderly conduct displayed by the operatives who have benefitted in this mode by the liberality of their fellow-townsmen; and the committee believe that the circumstance of so many workmen being ready and willing to earn the humble pittance of one shilling per day, affords melancholy evidence of the poverty and distress existing at this moment in the town of Newcastle. The committee trust that these facts will induce the liberal and benevolent inhabitants of Newcastle to assist in saving the industrious, but unemployed operative, from absolute pauperism. The commmitee flatter themselves, too, that the subscription will be sufficient in extent to enable the committee to continue their operations, until the harvest, and an improved state of trade, shall enable the parties who have been employed on the Moor, at wages so trifling, to obtain a recompense for their labour more suitable to the condition of British citizens."

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS for UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN.

	£	s.
Mr. G. Scarlet	2	2
Messrs. R. & W. Hawthorn	5	0
Richard Grainger, Esq.	3	3
Messrs. J. & J. Harvey	2	2
Messrs. W. J. Gray & Son	3	3
Mr. H. A. Mitchell	1	1
His Grace the Duke of Northumberland	25	0
Mr. Jos. Garnett (additional)	1	1
Sir John Fife	3	3
Mrs. Hunter, Brandling Place	10	0
Mr. Edward Loraine	1	0
Mr. Robert Maughan	1	0
Mr. Lawrence Hewison	1	0
R. C. Askew, Esq.	5	0
Bishop of Durham (per Vicar of Newcastle)	10	0
Messrs. H. & E. Liddell	2	2
Messrs. I. Ayton & Sons	1	1
Armourer Donkin	3	3
Rev. Mr. Fowler,	1	1
Nathl. Hindhaugh	1	0
Thomas Pollard,	1	1
Robt. Ormston, Esq.,	3	3
W. A. Mitchell,	1	1
R. B. Sanderson, Esq., Jesmond,	5	0
Josh. Watson,	1	1
Chas. Rayne,	2	2
Misses Tousey,	2	0
James Logan,	0	5
Governor & Company of the Bank of England	21	0
John Bulman,	1	1
Cuth. & John Liddell,	2	2
George Loyd,	1	0
Robert Stephenson & Co.,	10	0
M. Bell, Esq., M.P.,	5	0
Messrs. H. & J. Redhead	2	2
Mr. John Harle	1	1
Mr. C. F. Jackson	1	0
Mr. Robert Plummer	3	3
Messrs. Losh, Wilson, & Bell	10	0
Mr. Thos. Greaves, Percy-street	1	1
Mr. Robert Johnson	1	1
Messrs. R. J. Lambton & Co.	5	5
Rev. J. Davies, Rector of Gateshead	1	1
Geo. Thos. Dunn, Esq.	3	0
Mr. Robert Smaile	0	10
A Lady (per Union Bank)	0	10
Mr. Wm. Hemsley, Byker Buildings	1	0
Mr. Andrew Gray	2	0
Thomas L. Ternan, Esq.	2	2
Mr. John Brown, Ridley-place	10	6
Anthony Nichol, Chemist,	1	1
Workmen at Northern Advertiser Office,	1	0
North of England Banking Company,	5	0
Lord Ravensworth,	10	0
Lady Ravensworth,	5	0
Francis Johnson, Esq.,	3	0
Hoyle, Robson, & Co.,	3	0
Cuthbert Burnup,	2	0
Robert Ingham, Esq., Westoe,	3	3
W. W. Temple,	2	2
John Anderson, Sen., Westgate-street,	1	1
W. B. Procter,	1	0
Master and Brethren of the Trinity House, Newcastle,	10	10
James Radford,	1	1

ROBERT ROBINSON, Treasurer.
W. L. HARLE, Secretary.

Subscription Lists lie at the Banks in Newcastle; at Mr. Charnley's, Bookseller, Bigg Market; Mr. Heaton's, Bookseller, Sandhill; the Exchange News Room, Sandhill; and the Central Exchange News Room.

The Bishop of Durham has sent £10, and the Duke of Northumberland £25, to the fund for the relief of the unemployed workmen in Newcastle.

The *Berwick Advertiser*, as a corrective to the Tory boast of possessing the support of the "respectability" of the nation, publishes an analysis of the poll at the late contested election in that borough. We copy from our contemporary the following statement:—

	VOTED FOR— *Forster.*	*Hodgson.*	*Weeding.*
Freemen not £10 occupiers—Plumpers	31	8	8
——Splits	105	205	190
Freemen £10 occupiers——Plumpers	18	8	1
——Splits	13	49	52
£10 occupiers not Freemen—Plumpers	142	1	1
——Splits	85	72	83
	394	343	335

Hence we see that while the Reform candidate polled twice a many £10 householders as freemen, it was just the reverse wit the two Tory candidates.

DEATHS.—At Gateshead, on Saturday, July 24, aged 41, M William Falkous, builder. At the Salt Meadows, on Monday, aged 3 Mary-Ann, wife of Mr. George Burdekin, manager at the Tyne Alka Works. In Petch's-yard, on Wednesday, aged 100 years and 10 month Mr. William Potts. He retained the use of his faculties to the last.

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The recent ordinations by the Bishop of Durham, at Auckland Castle, are as follows:—

DEACONS.—O. James, St. John's Camb. M. Hill, Jesus, Camb. W. B. Galloway, University, Glasgow, and licentiate in theology of University, Durham. H. W. Tibbs, A. D. Shafto, J. Stevenson, George Ormsby, R. Mangham, and John Burrell, licentiates in theology, University, Durham. A. H. Hulton, University, Durham. C. Campbell, St. John's, Cambridge. H. J. Biggs. University, Oxford.

PRIESTS.—Charles Forbes, chaplain to Earl Grey. Edward Elder, Balliol, Oxford. James Stewart, Trinity, Camb. William Sisson, licentiate in theology, University, Durham. George Heriot, University, Durham. F. B. Thompson, University, Durham. J. G. Pearson, licentiatein theology, University, Durham. T. Dalton, University, Durham. E. N. Mangin, Wadham, Oxford. J. F. Townsend, University, Oxford.

The Newcastle Town Council held a quarterly meeting on Wednesday, when the Town Clerk read a Report from the Committee appointed to make arrangements between the Victoria and Northern Blind Asylums, to the effect that both Committees had expressed themselves favourable to a union, and that the Victoria Committee had agreed that a chaplain of the Established Church should be appointed, to be paid by a separate subscription, Dissenting inmates being allowed to attend their own chapels—an arrangement which the Committee expected would have been conclusive, but they afterwards received a letter from the Northern Asylum, stating that its friends were determined that the chaplain's salary should be paid out of the funds of the charity. The Committee had therefore given up the business as hopeless. The Report was confirmed.

A special general meeting of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society was held in the hall of the Trinity House, Newcastle, on Tuesday, Aug. 3, to "consider the propriety of co-operating with the Liverpool Society for the Registration of Shipping." George Straker, Esq., the Chairman of the Society, presided on the occasion, and stated, that the rules both of Lloyd's and of the Liverpool Society had been examined, and the result was, that the Liverpool "Book" presented advantages to the shipping interest amply sufficient to entitle it to the cordial support of the shipowners of the Tyne. The competition, alone, which it created with Lloyd's, would do good; for justice would be more likely to be impartially administered henceforth, than when solely dependent upon the will of Lloyd's committee. There were some matters in the Liverpool rules which might be corrected with advantage:—for instance, the survey specified by the 18th rule should not apply to Liverpool alone, but to every considerable port in the kingdom. Some little amendment in the rules as to shipbuilding might also be usefully made. Several other members expressed their approval of the Liverpool "Book," and of the reductions in the fees for registration after survey, &c., which would induce shipowners generally to have their vessels registered. It was then moved by Stephen Lowrey, Esq., seconded by R. W. Swan, Esq., and carried *unanimously*—"That in the opinion of this Society, the establishment of the projected Register of Shipping in Liverpool will prove of service to the shipping interest of the kingdom, and, as such, is deserving of the cordial support of the shipowners of the Tyne." [We cordially concur in this resolution. Until registration of shipping shall be made compulsory, its protective object can only be successfully promoted by affording facilities or presenting inducements to shipowners to register. The Liverpool Society breaks down the monopoly of Lloyd's, and, by so doing, confers a favour, not on shipowners only, but on the community at large.—ED. G.O.]

Messrs. Bolckow & Vaughan, of Middlesbrough, brought their new iron-works into partial operation on Thursday last, when the "rolling mill" was set in action for the first time. A correspondent says:—One o'clock was the hour appointed for the starting of the mill; and at the time the engine was put in motion, and all found nearly ready, a great number of visitors were there to witness the start—several gentlemen from Stockton and other places—and all seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings. About 2 o'clock all was in readiness, and a lump of iron, in a state of fusion, was conveyed on a proper carriage to the "squeezer," where it was kneaded (as a gentleman observed) "like an old woman working a loaf." This squeezer is of great power and weight, weighing upwards of 20 tons! Its shape and action may be compared to the head of a huge crocodile; and some one had humorously chalked an eye on each side, and a row of large teeth on the jaw, which gave it the appearance of a mighty monster chewing red hot iron for its food! After the mass had undergone this process, it was quickly conveyed to the rollers, when Mr. Vaughan seized it with a proper pair of pincers, and passed it through the rollers, amidst the loud and long-continued hurrahs of the whole of the workmen and the company present. It was passed successively through the different grooves of the rollers, till it became a long fine bar of wrought iron. All expressed themselves highly delighted with what they had witnessed, and could not but admire the completeness of the machinery, as far as it is fixed, and the admirable arrangement of the whole of the works—which will have a great advantage over many very extensive works of a similar description. Instead of being begun on a small scale, and extended with the increase of business, they have been designed on a large and comprehensive plan, highly creditable to the spirited and enterprising gentlemen, the owners of the works. The different departments are so arranged that the huge masses of wrought iron can be moved from one part to the other, for the necessary operations, and finally shipped at the door, with the greatest facility and economy of labour. The works are yet only in their infancy, but they bid fair, when complete, to be the most extensive and convenient in the district. The forge, the foundry, and the rolling mill, are now in operation, and upwards of 150 workmen are already employed. After the rolling of bars was over, on Thursday, Mr. Bolckow gave a sumptuous dinner and dessert to his friends, to commemorate the occasion.—AUG. 7.

THE DISTRESSED WORKMEN OF NEWCASTLE.—CURIOUS CORRESPONDENCE.—A meeting of the committee for conducting the subscription for the unemployed operatives of Newcastle was held in the council-room, in the Guildhall, on Thursday morning last, (the Mayor in the chair.) Amongst the committee present, were Ald. Losh, Councillors Straker, Robinson, and Burrell, and Messrs. W. Chapman, J. Grote, Bargate, J. Pollard, Greenhow, Hotham, Scarlett, Brockett, Harle, &c. The Treasurer reported that the subscription list amounted to £343 10s. 1d., and that the payments to workmen employed in draining the ditches of the race course and levelling the banks amounted to upwards of £90: that the average number employed were about 200 per day, besides about 50 employed by the corporation and paid by them. The treasurer, Mr. Robinson, said that, according to the instructions of the committee, he had forwarded to the Sheriffs of Newcastle and Northumberland copies of the subscription list, with a request that they might be laid on the tables of the respective grand-jury rooms. From the High Sheriff of Northumberland he had received an unfavourable reply; but the committee would understand the matter best by having the correspondence read. Mr. Robinson then read the letters, as follows:—

Newcastle, July 30th, 1841.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee for conducting the subscription in favour of the unemployed workmen, I have the honour to enclose a list of subscribers, and most respectfully to request you will have the kindness to allow the list to be placed on the table of the Grand Jury room during the assizes.

I beg leave to state, that the number of men employed in draining the Town Moor have increased from 52 on the first day, to 285 to-day: they are paid one shilling per day, with the addition of one penny roll every morning. The relief, though so very small, I am happy to say, is thankfully received by the men. The Committee have determined to give relief only through the medium of employment, and in no case to give money. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

ROBT. ROBINSON, Treasurer.

To Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., High Sheriff of Northumberland.

Queen's Head, July 30th, 1841.

SIR,—I have the received your communication under direction of the Committee for conducting the subscription in favour of unemployed workmen on the Town Moor. I cannot conceive on what grounds the inhabitants of Newcastle can expect the *county* to contribute to a fund for draining the Town Moor, which is the property of the town. I have other grounds of objection, but this already adduced must prevent my complying with your request to lay the subscription list on the table of the Grand Jury room, and thereby add my own recommendation of the matter to their favourable consideration. I may further add, that the Sheriff was not the party to whom this application, as pertaining to the Grand Jury, should have been forwarded, nor was it forwarded at a proper time, or in a proper manner.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, Sheriff.

Robt. Robinson, Esq., &c. &c.

31, Side, Newcastle, July 31st, 1841.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day. I think you have in a great degree misunderstood the nature of the communication I forwarded to you yesterday.

Not much accustomed to official forms, I sent the list supposing it

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would be laid on the table of the Grand Jury room as a matter of course.

In regard to the distress existing in this town and vicinity being exclusively alleviated by the inhabitants, I may state, that the liberal contributions of the Duke of Northumberland, the Bishop of Durham, and many others to the fund for relieving the unemployed workmen, show that sympathy with the suffering poor is happily not confined within the limits of Newcastle.

If I have erred in not forwarding the list "*to the proper party, nor at the proper time, or in a proper manner*," I must say, I regret it exceedingly, but feel conscious that as I did it in my simplicity, and in the discharge of a public duty, I do think you might have spared the somewhat offensive remarks on the humble individual who has now the honour of addressing you. I remain, Sir,

Yours very respectfully,
ROBT. ROBINSON.

To Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., High Sheriff of Northumberland.

Mr. Brockett moved that "the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Robinson, for the mode in which he has conducted the correspondence with Sir M. W. Ridley, and that the letters now read be entered on the minutes of the committee." Mr. Straker seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Mr. Straker, who has attended daily on the moor, stated that the men had conducted themselves well, and had worked cheerfully, even for the small wages they received. The meeting was then adjourned until Thursday next.

The annual gooseberry show, Low Fell, Gateshead, was held on Saturday evening, at the Engine public house, when the prizes were awarded as under:—The first prize to Mr. George Frost, of Dunston, for the Gunner, weighing 19½ dwts.; and the second, third, and fourth, to Mr. Ralph Crowe, of Gateshead Fell, for the Roaring Lion, 18 dwts., Peacock, 16, and Eagle, 15.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	p Cout, Joseph	p Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	Hymers, Jas.	Rowntree, W.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	p Kenmir, Wm.	p Sowerby, G.
p Hall, Michael	Fairbairn, J.	p Lister, John	Swan, Walker
p Pollock, James	Forster, S.	p Potts, John	Wight, John
p Wilson, Thos.		p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked p were present.]

The Council met on Wednesday, August 4.

The TOWN CLERK read the minutes of the last meeting.

Ald. BROCKETT, in the name of Messrs. George Hawks, James Hymers, Thomas Wilson, James Pollock, John Abbot, John Fairbairn, William Kell, Thomas Revely, Thomas Cummins, John Potts, William Hymers, William Kenmir, Robert Davis, William Wylam, and himself, begged to present to the Council a portrait of the late Earl of Durham, (by Ellerby,) to remain in the Council Room, as a memorial of his lordship. [The portrait is placed above the mantel-piece of the Council Room.]

Ald. HALL moved, and Mr. SOWERBY seconded—That the portrait be accepted, and the thanks of the Council given, to the donors, for their very munificent present.—Carried unanimously.

The TOWN CLERK read a Report of the Railway Committee, containing an answer which had been sent to the Carlisle Railway Co., respecting the pot-house quay watering-place, pointing out the breaches of faith of which the Railway Company had been guilty in the matter, and calling upon them, for the last time, to do justice to the public, but giving notice of ulterior measures in case of longer refusal.—No answer had been received.

Mr. SOWERBY said the watering place was a good one, and that the place was formerly occupied by timber, and that Mr. Bell, the land-surveyor, had said the landing-place made was a good one, and that the Council seemed "bad to please."

Mr. BROCKETT hoped Mr. Sowerby had told Mr. Bell how many times the Railway Company had promised, and broken their promises, to the Council. The least thing to be expected from a Councillor, was, that he should defend the Council from imputations which might be unjustly made against it.

Mr. WILSON thought it would have been better for Mr. Sowerby to have said all this four years ago—it would have saved a good deal of trouble.

Mr. REVELY and Mr. KENMIR condemned the conduct of the Railway Company, and were surprised at the defence made by Mr. Sowerby.

The Railway Committee's Report was then received, and confirmed unanimously.

The Bye Laws, which, for want of a quorum, could not be considered last meeting, were adopted, (with the alterations which the Marquis of Normanby still thought to be desirable,) on the motion of Ald. HALL, seconded by Mr. DAVIS. The bye-laws to take effect on the 4th of October next.

The Footpath Committee reported a correspondence with the Water Company respecting the "pants," which was confirmed by the Council.

The Quay Committee made a Report of a conference with Messrs. Haggie & Son, respecting placing a crane on the quay, and occupying part of the quay. The Committee had come to terms, and Mr. Haggie had offered to collect the quay dues for the Council. The Report was confirmed, on the motion of Ald. HALL, seconded by Mr. GRAHAM.

Various orders of the Watch Committee, including the payment of gas rent, a contract for lighting the lamps, payments for flags, &c. &c., were confirmed, on the motion of Mr. COUT, seconded by Mr. CUMMINS.

The Finance Committee reported that £7 9s. 7d. were in hand, and recommended a borough-rate of a penny in the pound to be laid on; which was ordered, on the motion of Ald. BARRAS, seconded by Ald. WILSON.

The resignation of Mr. C. P. Rippon, as Chief Constable, was read and accepted, and Mr. Pearse was appointed, at the usual salary of two guineas a-year.

The TOWN CLERK laid on the table a list of local Acts of Parliament which had been obtained. He also reported that he had received no reply to the offer of the justice-room to the county magistrates.

Mr. BROCKETT said he had a motion of consequence to propose to the Council, and as its justice was so apparent, he would anticipate no opposition, but simply read it, as follows:—

That in the opinion of this Council it would be of much advantage to the general community interested in the commerce of the Tyne, to have the conservatorship of that river placed in commission, the commissioners whereof to be appointed, in fair proportions, by the boroughs of Newcastle, Gateshead, Tynemouth, and South Shields; and that in order to carry into effect so desirable a change, a committee be appointed to consider the best means of proceeding in the matter, with power to confer and co-operate with the other towns above mentioned.

The motion was seconded by Mr. LISTER, and carried unanimously.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Committee:—Mr. Ald. Brockett, Mr. Ald. Pollock, Mr. Kenmir, Mr. Graham, and Mr. John Lister.

The Council then adjourned to the 15th of September.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE half-yearly GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Marine Insurance Company, in conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, will be held at the Three Indian Kings' Inn, Quayside, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th of August inst., at 12 o'clock, to receive the Accounts, and elect Officers for the ensuing year. By order,

JAMES POTTS, Secretary.

Offices of the Company, 33, Quayside,
Newcastle, August 3, 1841.

TO PERSONS OF THE NAME OF THOMLINSON, OR TOMLINSON, AND OTHERS.

A GENTLEMAN, engaged in tracing the various descendants of WILLIAM THOMLINSON, who, in the year 1529, was Bailiff of the borough of Gateshead, very respectfully solicits communications on the subject, either from the family, or others acquainted with it, whereby the pedigree, as given by the county historians, may be rendered more perfect, and, if possible, completed to the present time. Letters, addressed to A. B., 6, Dear's-place, Somer's Town, London, will be forwarded to the advertiser, and thankfully acknowledged.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

WANTED, COPIES of the BOROUGH-HOLDERS' ACCOUNTS, printed and published between the years 1760 and 1800. These Accounts were published annually, and must be in the possession of many persons in this neighbourhood. Apply at the *Observer* office.

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WATER—one of the greatest necessaries of life—is wanting in the upper part of Gateshead. The "Bathe" Well, one of the oldest sources of supply to the inhabitants south of Sunderland road, is now dry and useless. Will the wealthy and philanthropic allow the poor and needy to be deprived of their usual supply? A small Subscription would prevent such a calamity, and it is humbly hoped that this application may not have to be repeated.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

[From the *Globe*, which is giving personal notices of the members of the new Parliament, we select the following brief memoirs of a few of our north-country senators, and of others connected with our parts by family ties.]

(W.) AGLIONBY, HENRY AGLIONBY, Esq., of Newbiggin-Hall, Cumberland, (M.P. for Cockermouth,) a barrister of the northern circuit, and a considerable landed proprietor, is son of the Rev. Samuel Bateman, rector of Farthingstone, by Anne his wife, daughter and co-heir of Henry Aglionby, Esq., of the Nunnery, and assumed his present surname on inheriting a portion of the Aglionby estates. He was born Dec. 28, 1790. The Aglionbys were founded by one of the soldiers of the Conquest, and have been ever since resident in Cumberland, enjoying large estates, intermarrying with the Broughams, the Lawsons, the Musgraves, and other eminent families, and frequently representing Carlisle in Parliament. The late knight of the shire for East Cumberland, Major Aglionby, was cousin to the member for Cockermouth.

(T.) ATTWOOD, MATTHIAS, Esq., of Muswell-Hill, Middlesex, (M.P. for Whitehaven,) an eminent banker and merchant in London, was formerly returned by the disfranchised borough of Callington, the property of Mr. Alexander Baring, and subsequently, through the influence of the Duke of Newcastle, for Boroughbridge. His father, Matthias Attwood, of Hales Owen, who realized a large fortune by a monopoly of Swedish iron, left with other children six sons. The eldest, Matthias, is the member for Whitehaven; the second, George, is a banker at Birmingham; the third, Thomas, was late M.P. for that town; the fourth is a banker in London; the fifth a Russian merchant; and the sixth, Charles, well known as a Reformer at Newcastle.

(W.) BARCLAY, DAVID, Esq., of Eastwick Park, Surrey, (M.P. for Sunderland,) an eminent merchant, represented Penryn in 1826, and is returned for the second time by the electors of Sunderland. The hon. member is brother of Charles Barclay, Esq., the opulent brewer of London, and son of the late Robert Barclay, Esq., of Bury Hill, by Rachael his wife, daughter of John Gurney, Esq., of Keswick. He is thus first cousin to Hudson Gurney, Esq., the learned Vice-President of the Antiquarian Society. Mr. David Barclay has completed his 56th year, and is married to Maria Dorothea, sister to Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., M.P.

(T.) BARRINGTON, Viscount, (M.P. for Berkshire,) possesses an estate in the county he represents, which was bequeathed to his ancestor, the first peer, by John Wildman, Esq., of Beckett, (no relation, and almost a stranger,) as a mark of respect for his public character. His Lordship, who is grand-nephew of Shute Barrington, the celebrated Bishop of Durham, was born October 1st, 1793, and married, in 1823, Jane Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Ravensworth.

(T.) BELL, MATTHEW, Esq., of Wolsington, (M.P. for South Northumberland,) was first elected knight of the shire in 1826, in the room of his cousin, Mr. Brandling, after a severe contest with the Hon. H. T. Liddell. He again successfully contested the county at the general election in the following June, and has since that period (with the exception of the parliament that passed the Reform Bill) continued to hold his seat. The honourable member, possessed of a good landed estate, and connected with the Ridleys, the Edens, and other eminent northern families, is son and heir of the late Matthew Bell, Esq., of Wolsington, and great grandson of Mr. Alderman Bell, mayor of Newcastle in 1757. Mr. Bell is married to the daughter and heiress of Henry Utrick Reay, Esq., of Killingworth.

(W.) BELL, J., Esq., (M.P. for Thirsk,) an opulent resident in the town, and a magistrate for the North Riding of Yorkshire, sits for the first time in Parliament.

(W.) BOWES, JOHN, Esq., of Streatlam Castle, (M.P. for South Durham,) is son of the late Earl of Strathmore. The hon. member inherited, under his father's will, the great estates of the Bowes family, and claimed, though unsuccessfully, the Scottish peerage. He was born in 1811.

(T.) CASTLEREAGH, Viscount, (M.P. for County Down,) is eldest son of the present Marquis of Londonderry, by his first wife, Catherine, daughter of John third Earl of Darnley, and nephew of the late peer, so celebrated under the title his lordship bears. The noble member has continued uninterruptedly to represent this county since his first election upon his attaining his majority, in 1826. The late Lord Castlereagh, when scarcely of age, stood one of the severest contests on record for the county of Down: it lasted three months, and occasioned his lordship an expenditure of more than twenty-five thousand pounds.

(W.) CAYLEY, EDWARD STILLINGFLEET, Esq., of Wydall House, (M.P. for Yorkshire, North Riding,) first returned in 1832, devotes his chief attention to the advancement of the agricultural interest, and has written a work on commercial economy. The hon. member descends from a junior branch of the old Yorkhouse house of Cayley of Brompton, now represented by his father-in-law, Sir George Cayley, Bart.

(T.) CHAPMAN, AARON, Esq., of Stokesley, in Yorkshire, (M.P. for Whitby,) has been again returned for this borough, which he has represented since 1832. He is an opulent merchant in London, an elder brother of the Trinity-House, and an East India proprietor.

(T.) CHELSEA, Viscount, (M.P. for Reading,) sits for the first time in Parliament. He is eldest son of Earl Cadogan, who inherits from his great grandfather, the celebrated Sir Hans Sloane, Bart., the valuable manor of Chelsea, near London, whence the noble lord, the member for Reading, derives his title. Lord Chelsea was born 15th July, 1812, and married, in 1836, his cousin, Mary, third daughter of the Hon. and Rev. Gerald Valerian Wellesley, D.D., and niece of the Duke of Wellington.

(W.) CHILDERS, JOHN WALBANKE, Esq., of Cantley, in Yorkshire, (M.P. for Malton) sat for Cambridgeshire from Jan. 1833 to Dec. 1834. He is son of the late John Walbanke Childers, Esq., by the Hon. Selina Eardley his wife, daughter and co-heir of Sampson, Lord Eardley: was born in 1798, and married in 1824 Anne, only daughter of Sir Francis Lindley Wood, Bart.

(W.) COLBORNE, Hon. WILLIAM NICHOLAS, (M.P. for Richmond,) is only son of Lord Colborne, and nephew of the late Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart. The hon. member has just completed his 27th year.

(T.) CRESSWELL, ADDISON JOHN BAKER, Esq., of Cresswell, (M.P. for N. Northumberland,) who, aided by the power and influence of Percy, [Smithson?] has succeeded in displacing the late gifted knight of the shire, Lord Howick, inherits, in right of his mother, considerable estates in Northumberland, and through his wife, Elizabeth Mary, daughter of Gilfrid Lawson Reed Esq., of Campion Hill, has become possessed of the large property of her cousin, Mr. Baker, of Hinton, in Gloucestershire. The hon. gentleman is elder brother of Mr. Cresswell, the member for Liverpool.

(T.) CRESSWELL, CRESSWELL, Esq., (M.P. for Liverpool,) a leading barrister on the Northern Circuit, and one of the Queen's Counsel, is son of the late Francis Easterly, Esq., of Blackhealth, (who married the elder daughter and co-heir of John Cresswell, Esq., of Cresswell, and asumed her surname,) and younger brother to the present Addison John Baker Cresswell, Esq., of Cresswell, High Sheriff of Northumberland in 1821, and M.P. for Northumberland. Mr. Cresswell Cresswell was first returned to Parliament for Liverpool after the dissolution in 1837, when he defeated the former member Mr. Ewart. The Cresswells have been seated, from an early era, in the North of England.

(T.) DARLINGTON, the Earl of, (M.P. for South Shropshire,) is the eldest son of the Duke of Cleveland, by Lady Katherine Powlett, second daughter and coheir of Harry, last Duke of Bolton, and lineally decends from Sir Harry Vane, who played so conspicuous a part in the troubled times of Charles I.—Lord Darlington, who was born Aug. 16, 1788, and married, in 1809, Lady Sophia Powlett, sister to John Earl of Powlett, is a lieutenant-colonel in the army, and has been in Parliament for Saltash, Totnes, and other boroughs, for 20 years, with the exception of the year 1831. He has represented the southern division of the county of Salop since 1832.

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(W.) DUKE, Sir JAMES, Knight, (M.P. for Boston).—This gentleman is a native of Montrose. He was one of the Sheriffs of London in 1836-7, and in consequence received the honour of knighthood. The present is his second Parliament. Sir James Duke is a commercial man of high credit in the city of London, and is well known in this port as an eminent coal-factor.

(W.) DUNDAS, DAVID, Esq., (M.P. for Sutherlandshire,) has been knight of the shire since the retirement of Mr. Howard in 1840. The learned gentleman, a barrister and Queen's counsel, practises the Northern Circuit, and has attained high professional reputation as an able and eloquent lawyer.

(W.) DUNDAS, Hon. JOHN CHARLES, barrister at law, (M.P. for Richmond,) sat for York in the last Parliament. He is youngest brother to the Earl of Zetland, and cousin to Earl Fitzwilliam: was born in 1808, and is unmarried. In the vicinity of the town he represents, is situated Aske-hall, the splendid mansion of the Dundas family.

(W.) EWART, WM. Esq., (M.P. for Dumfries,) son of one of the most eminent merchants of Liverpool, originally sat in Parliament for Bletchingly, previous to the passing of the Reform Bill, and represented Liverpool from 1830 to 1837, when he was defeated by Mr. Cresswell. He was returned for Wigan in 1839, on the retirement of Mr. Potter, and is now the representative for Dumfries, and is a barrister by profession.

(T.) FITZHARRIS, Viscount, (M.P. for Wilton,) is the eldest son of the Earl of Malmesbury, and son-in-law of the Earl of Tankerville, having married that nobleman's only daughter, Lady Emma Bennet. His lordship has completed his 24th year

(T.) FITZROY, Capt. GEORGE, of the 1st Life Guards, (M.P. for Durham,) son of the late General Lord Charles Fitzroy, and grandson of the late Duke of Grafton, prime minister. in 1765-6, is returned for the city he represents through the interest of his uncle, the Marquis of Londonderry. The gallant officer was born in 1800, and married in 1830 Louisa, youngest daughter of the late John Harris, Esq., of Radford, Devon.

(W.) FORSTER, MATTHEW, Esq., of Bellside, Hampstead, (M.P. for Berwick,) a gentleman of sound Whig principles, is a merchant in London, and brother of P. Forster, Esq., of Durham. He was returned by a triumphant majority over the two late Tory members; shewing that in the "gude town" of Berwick-upon-Tweed at least, a re action in favour of a Liberal ministry has taken place, "Billy" Holmes, one of the late members, not even having dared to show his face again; and Mr. Weeding, his expectant successor, finding himself, to his mortification, at the bottom of the poll.

(W.) GRANGER, T. C., Esq., (M.P. for Durham,) a practising barrister, sits for the first time in Parliament.

(T.) GRAHAM, the Right Hon. Sir JAMES ROBERT, Bart., of Netherby, (M.P. for Dorchester,) represented Carlisle from 1820 to 1830—East Cumberland from 1830 to 1837—and the Pembroke district in the last Parliament. Under Lord Grey's administration he held office as First Lord of the Admiralty from its formation until 1834, but seceded in that year, disapproving of the extent to which ministers proposed reforming the Irish Church. The Right Hon. Bart. was born in 1792, and married, in 1819, Fanny Callender, daughter of Sir James Campbell, of Ardkinglass. He possesses considerable landed property in the North, and descends from a younger son of the ancient house of Graham of Esk.

(T) HARDINGE, the Right Honourable Sir HENRY, K.C.B., of Retton, (M.P. for Launceston,) a Major-General in the army, and Colonel of the 92d Foot, has established a high reputation both as a soldier and a politician. During the Peninsular war he obtained active service, participating, in the capacity of Deputy Quarter-Master General of the Portugese army, in all the principal events. He was also at Waterloo, and there lost an arm, for which he receives a pension of £300. His first return to Parliament was for the city of Durham in 1826, and he has since represented successively the boroughs of St. Germains, Newport, and Launceston. Sir Henry, who has twice been Chief Secretary for Ireland, was born in 1785; he is brother of the Rev. Sir Charles Hardinge, Bart., of Belleisle, in the county of Fermanagh, brother-in law of the Marquis of Londonderry, and grandson of Nicholas Hardinge, Esq., of Cranbury, joint Secretary of the Treasury, in 1752, by Jane, daughter of the Right Honourable Sir John Pratt, Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench.

(T.) HINDE, JOHN HODGSON, Esq., (M.P. for Newcastle-upon-Tyne.) The Hodgson family has been for ages settled in Northumberland, and so early as the reign of Edward I. the name occurs in the records of the town of Newcastle. Mr. Hodgson Hinde, who assumed his present surname of Hinde since his first election, on succeeding to the estates of the family of that name, is eldest son of the late John Hodgson, Esq., of Elswick House, by Sarah his wife, daughter of Richard Huntley, Esq, of Friarside: was born July 30, 1806, and married, in 1833, Isabella, daughter and co-heir of the late Anthony Compton, Esq., of Carham Hall.

(T.) HODGSON, RICHARD, Esq., of Stelling Hall, Northumberland, (M.P. for Berwick,) represents Berwick for the second time, having been first elected in 1837. He is second son of the late John Hodgson, Esq., of Elswick, and younger brother of Mr. Hodgson Hinde, M.P. for Newcastle. The honourable member was born April 1st, 1812.

(W.) HORSMAN, EDWARD, Esq., (M.P. for Cockermouth,) an advocate at the Scottish bar, unsuccessfully contested the borough at the general election in 1835, but was returned without opposition the following year, and has since continued to represent that constituency. The hon. gentleman is son of William Horsman, Esq., and nephew of the present Earl of Stair.

(W.) HOWARD, the Hon. CHARLES WENTWORTH GEORGE, (M.P. for East Cumberland,) is the fifth son of the present Earl of Carlisle, nephew of the Duke of Devonshire, and grandson of Frederick Lord Carlisle, the kinsman and guardian of Lord Byron. With a splendour of descent almost unequalled, the Howards possess considerable landed property in the division of the county of which Mr. Charles Wentworth Howard is at present the representative. The hon. member is direct descendant of the celebrated Earl of Surrey, a poet of taste and refinement, at a period when our literature was rude and barbarous. Married the Lady Frances Vere, daughter of John Earl of Oxford.

(W.) HOWARD, the Hon. EDWARD GEORGE GRANVILLE, (M.P. for Morpeth,) Captain in the Royal Navy, is son of the Earl of Carlisle, and brother to Lord Morpeth. He was born in 1809, and was first returned for the borough on its being vacated in 1840 by Lord Leveson.

(W.) HOWARD, PHILIP HENRY, Esq., (M.P. for Carlisle,) member for this city since 1830, is the eldest son of Henry Howard, Esq., the venerable proprietor of Corby Castle, one of the most beautiful residences in the county of Cumberland, and descends from a distinguished branch of the illustrious house of Howard, founded by Lord William Howard ("Belted Will Howard, the Lord Warden of the West Marshes"), grandson of the celebrated and ill-fated Earl of Surrey. The hon. member was born in 1801, and is unmarried.

(W.) HUTT, WILLIAM, Esq., (M.P. for Gateshead,) of Gibside, in the county of Durham, represented Hull in the three last parliaments, and is now member for Gateshead, near which town he resides. Mr. Hutt stood for Gateshead at the request of a large majority of the electors, and was returned without opposition. He was born in 1801, and married, in 1831, Mary, Countess of Strathmore, widow of the late earl.

(T.) IRTON, SAMUEL, Esq., of Irton, (M.P. for West Cumberland,) the descendant of one of the oldest families in the north, resident in Cumberland from a period antecedent to the Conquest, is the eldest son of the late Edmund Lamplugh Irton, Esq., and great grandson of George Irton, Esq., of Irton, who served the office of Sheriff for Cumberland in 1753. He was born in 1796, and married, July 25, 1825, Eleanor, daughter of Joseph Tiffin Senhouse, Esq., of Calder Abbey.

(W.) JAMES, WILLIAM, Esq., of Barrock Lodge (M.P. for East Cumberland,) who for many years represented Carlisle, was first returned for the eastern division of Cumberland in 1839, on the vacancy caused by Mr. Blamire's appointment as Chief Tithe Commissioner. He is grandson of William James, Esq., an eminent West India merchant at Liverpool, and son of William James of the same place, by Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Nicholas Ashton, Esq., of Woolton Hall, in Lancashire. Mr. James is brother-in-law of Fergus Graham, Esq. (cousin to Sir James Graham), stepson of Colonel Williams, ex M.P. for Ashton, and nearly connected with Mr. Ashton Yates and Mr. Ewart of Liverpool. The hon. member married, in 1816, Fanny, daughter of W. C. Rutson, Esq., of Allerton Lodge.

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(W.) LAMBTON HEDWORTH, Esq., (M.P., for North Durham,) is youngest brother of the late Earl of Durham, and son of William Henry Lambton, Esq., of Lambton, the representative of one of the first families in Durham, distinguished for ages, but pre-eminently so during the period of the civil war. He was born in 1797, and married, in 1835, Anna, eldest daughter of the late Gervase Parker Bushe, Esq., of Kilkenny, and niece of the Countess of Listowel. Mr. Lambton has represented the county since 1832.

(W.) LISTOWEL, Earl of K.P., (M.P. for St. Alban's,) an Irish nobleman, is eldest son of the late Viscount Ennismore, M.P. for Cork, and succeeded to the titles of his family at the decease of his grandfather, the late Earl of Listowel, in 1837, His lordship was born in 1801, and married, in 1831, Maria, daughter of Admiral Windham, of Felbrigge, the inheritor of the estates of the celebrated statesman of that name.

(T.) LIDDELL, the Hon. HENRY THOMAS, (M.P. for North Durham,) who sat for Northumberland in 1826, was first returned for the northern division of Durham in 1837, in place of his brother-in-law, Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., after a severe contest with Sir William Chaytor, of Croft. The hon. gentleman is eldest son of Lord Ravensworth: was born March 10, 1787, and married, Nov. 9, 1830, Isabella-Horatia, eldest daughter of Lord George Seymour.

(T.) LOWTHER, Viscount, (M.P. for Westmorland,) eldest son of the Earl of Lonsdale, K.G., a nobleman of paramount influence in the North of England, and Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland: is Lieutenant-Colonel of the Westmorland Militia, and held office under the Wellington administration as Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and as Treasurer of the Navy and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, under that of Sir Robert Peel. His lordship was born in 1787: has sat for Westmorland from 1818 to 1831, when he was returned for Dunwich, and from the following year has represented the county he is now member for.

(T.) LOWTHER, the Hon. HENRY CECIL, (M.P. for Westmorland,) Colonel of the Cumberland Yeomanry, and member for Westmorland since 1818, is second son of Earl Lonsdale, and brother of the other member for the county. He was born in 1790, and married, May 19, 1817, Lady Lucy Eleanor Sherrard, daughter of the late Earl of Harborough.

(T.) LOWTHER, JOHN HENRY, Esq., (M.P. for York City,) nephew of the Earl of Lonsdale, and eldest son of Sir John Lowther, Bart., of Swillington, Yorkshire, by Lady Elizabeth Fane, daughter of the second Earl of Westmorland, formerly represented Wigton, and sits for the third time for York. He was born March 23d, 1793.

(T.) LYALL, GEORGE, Esq., (M.P. for the City of London,) is an eminent commercial man. He has already sat in Parliament as member for the city. Mr. Lyall is a native of Gateshead.

(T.) MACLEAN, DONALD, Esq., of the Chancery bar, (M.P. for Oxford,) is second son of Lieut-General Sir Fitzroy Grafton Maclean, Bart., of Morvaren, and descends from a family pre-eminently distinguished in the military annals of Scotland. He was first returned for the city of Oxford, in 1833, and sits now for the third time in parliament. The learned gentleman married, in 1827, Harriet, daughter of General Frederick Maitland, and cousin to the Earl of Lauderdale.

(W.) MARSHALL, WILLIAM, Esq., of Patterdale Hall, Westmorland, (M.P. for Carlisle,) is eldest son of John Marshall, Esq., of Headingley, York, formerly knight of that shire, and brother to the former member for Leeds: was born in 1796, and married, in 1828, Georgina Christiana, seventh daughter of George Hibbert, Esq., of Munden, Herts. The great affluence of the family of Marshall has been chiefly acquired by the successful introduction of mechanical improvements into a branch of the linen manufactory, the spinning of flax; in which Mr. Marshall, sen., has formed extensive establishments at Leeds and Shrewsbury. The hon. member sat in Parliament for Leominster previous to the Reform Bill.

(W.) MITCALFE, H. Esq., of Whitley House, (M.P. for Tynemouth,) is a county magistrate, and an extensive shipowner in the town he now for the first time represents.

(W.) MURPHY, FRANCIS S., Esq., (M.P. for Cork,) son of Jeremiah Murphy, a merchant of the city, and nephew of the right Rev. Dr. Murphy, Catholic Bishop of the diocese, is a barrister practising on the Northern Circuit in England, where he has established considerable reputation as a most eloquent advocate. He is also distinguished in the walks of literature, and his great powers of oratory will render him a distinguished ornament of the Liberal section of the new Parliament.

(W.) OGLE, C. HENRY SAVILE, Esq., of Kirkley, (M.P. for S. Northumberland,) son of the Rev. John Savile Ogle, of Kirkley, Prebendary of Durham, and nephew of Mrs. Sheridan, last wife of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, represents the great baronial house of Ogle, which, from the time of the early Plantagenets, acted a prominent part in the prominent military achievements of the times, and was ever of first-rate importance in the county of Northumberland. The hon. member married, in 1827, Harriett Anne, daughter of Walter Bracebridge, Esq., of Atherstone Hall, Warwickshire.

(W.) ORD, WILLIAM, Esq., of Whitfield Hall, (M.P. for Newcastle-upon-Tyne,) descended from an old family, and possessed of numerous estates in the county of Northumberland, served in nine successive Parliaments for the borough of Morpeth, unsuccessfully contested the county of Northumberland in 1832, and was first elected for Newcastle, of which he is now the representative, in 1835. The honourable member, who is son of the late William Ord, Esq., of Whitfield Hall, by Eleanor, daughter of Charles Brandling, Esq., of Gosforth, representative for Newcastle in 1784, 1790, and 1796, was born January 2, 1781, and married, in 1802, Mary, daughter of the Rev. J. Scott, and sister to the Countess of Oxford.

(T.) OSSULSTON, Lord, (M.P. for N. Northumberland,) only son of the Earl of Tankerville, by Corisande, daughter of the Duc de Grammont, has been knight of the shire since 1832, and was born January 10, 1810. The noble house of Bennet, to which his lordship belongs, possesses great influence in the north, and has been twice elevated to the Peerage.

COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—The state of the Northern Coal Mines demands the most serious consideration. Witness the awful explosions at Wallsend, Hebburn, Jarrow, Felling, &c., &c.; and now, the other day, at Willington and Thornley; causing a horrible destruction of human life.

These calamities prove most clearly that the mode of ventilation is miserably defective. Now I would ask, does the system that is pursued in the northern district accord with the philosophical knowledge of the present time? If it does not, why is it persisted in? If it is continued from ignorance, that is, indeed, most shameful, but if from obstinacy, it is still worse. Mr. Buddle, the President of the Viewers' Society, and Secretary to the Coal Trade, continually uses this system—which, he says, is the only method that we are acquainted with for preventing accidents in coal-mines. It consists of a mechanical application of atmospheric air, to sweep away the inflammable gas as it is generated in the works, extending to a course of 30 miles; and also that the gas, when mixed with four parts of atmospheric air, becomes inexplosive. Now, Sir, we know from actual experiments, that hydrogen gas, when mixed with 1 to 13 parts of air, is highly explosive. I will therefore appeal to you to consider with what danger any system must be fraught that relies on so erroneous a calculation.

In the year 1806, a person waited on Mr. Brandling with a proposal to do away entirely with explosions; and he gave the outline of his method to that gentleman and Mr. Buddle. He descended into the pits, and fully investigated the evil. On his return he demonstrated the truth of his principle, and laid it down as an axiom, that were there is no dislocation of the coal-measures, there can be no confined hydrogen. This person was employed to put his system into operation in the neighbourhood of Dudley. The late Lord Dudley and Ward desired his agents to point out the most explosive of his mines. These mines were under the necessity of being artificially exploded from two to three times daily, even after all was done that could be done by endeavouring to dilute the gas. In twenty-three days he cleared these mines, and rendered them as harmless as mines over the dislocation are by nature. This person in 1815 was called to the district of the Tyne and Wear by the Society for preventing accidents in coal-mines. He went down into Hebburn colliery with Mr. Buddle, lighted by a steel mill; and there he offered to clear it from gas in one month; but the offer was not accepted, though Mr. Buddle had previously promised him a trial.

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Now, Mr. Editor, I would ask why this person's system—a system that Sir H. Davy has pronounced to be scientifically sound—which the Society of Arts in 1816 rewarded with their highest premium—which a Philosophical Society at Newcastle, in 1815, recommended to the Coal Trade—and of which the mine-masters of Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire, declared that it had exceeded their most sanguine expectations—why is this system not pursued in the North of England? Is human life to be thus continually sacrificed—property to an enormous amount almost daily destroyed and lost to the public—and are we to be told, as we were the other day, that no one is to blame? I boldly assert, that the fosterers of the system now used in the coal-mines of Durham and Northumberland, if they persist in their obstinacy, will be both morally and legally guilty of the crime of aggravated manslaughter. If Mr. Buddle and other directors of mines are ignorant of the system above alluded to, let them send for the inventor to instruct them, or allow him to clear the mines. When this is done, (and it will be done immediately, if pride do not prevent it,) we shall hear no more of immolations of poor colliers by explosions of hydrogen gas.

A LOOKER ON.

LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

No. XLIV.—THE TEMPERANCE PROCESSION.

SIR,—Some thorough-going teetotallers, who have been in the van of the Temperance movement—first abandoning ardent spirits—then wine and ale—and ultimately tobacco and snuff—have nevertheless had some misgivings as to the propriety of their appearing in a procession—mustering under a flag—following a band of music, and aiding in the formation of a pageant, which bears sufficient resemblance to certain customs of the times anterior to the era of the Temperance Reformation, to warrant a comparison, and require an apology for the practice.

The four corporate trades of this town—the weavers, the tanners and shoemakers, the skinners and glovers, and the hatters—were accustomed, time out of mind, to observe their several anniversaries by a feast and a procession. Some of the banners used by them on their bacchanalian festivities, have lately floated over the heads of the friends of Temperance, when embodied for a demonstration: some of the same musicians have played to the different companies: many of the same men have marched in the ranks of these opposite armies, and some may have been reminded by the equestrians at the head of the procession last Saturday, of the Champion and the King of the Cobblers. But here the comparison ends: in all other respects the two things are essentially different. We recollect something, and have heard more, about the club-feasts of the trades, and their walking the town. We have been roused betimes in the morning of St. Crispin, by a band of merry shoemakers—have seen their king led through the town in mock majesty, preceded by a champion who scoured the streets on his fiery steed. The hatters, too, on St. Clement's day, have mustered their staggering forces, marching to the tune of "ragged and true." Often have the glovers at Michaelmas, after long "saving up for the alderman day," devoted all their funds to feasting and dissipation; and after marching to the tune of "tarry woo," have returned to the Blue Bell to indulge in potations whilst their credit held out with the publican. And the weavers have devoted what they could ill afford out of their scanty earnings, to the same inglorious purpose. I fear it was too common for every individual in all these trades who attended the festival, to partake of strong drink; and to say merely that very many were made drunk, would be saying too little. There is reason to think that the sober men were the exceptions to the rule, and that at the end of the day there were few who remained entirely sober. How different was the scene on Saturday in Hexham, where a body of men, far outnumbering the aggregate of all the above trades, were seen peacefully parading the streets of the town, every one of them sober, and resolved to continue so—intimating by their assemblage the love of each other's company, and affording by their public procession an open demonstration in favour of Temperance, and on the side of virtue—a solemn protest against the use of all intoxicating drinks.

Merely to register names and dates, is not our method of reporting, thinking it more useful to seize on some striking feature in the meeting which may be turned to good account; and we have thus been led to contrast the drunken orgies of the corporate companies of this town, which we hope never to see repeated, with the peaceful, orderly, and happy display which is now annually made in favour of Temperance, and in consonance with morality. But the least we can do, in gratitude to the friends who came from a distance, to interest the people of Hexham by their speeches on their great anniversary, is to acknowledge their services. Mr. Miatt, of South Shields, a member of the legal profession, in a very comprehensive and well-arranged speech, gave proofs of his capabilities as a Temperance advocate. Our worthy friends, Messrs. Dawson, of Seaton Sluice, and Elliott, of Earsdon, again favoured us with their company, and more than ever interested their numerous audience. The former being engaged in the education of youth, will, we trust, exert a happy influence; whilst the latter, a man whom education could not make, is an invaluable acquisition to the good cause which he advocates. Then there is friend Hawks, the "Tyne-water Keelman," well adapted to work among men of his order. John Hindmarsh depicted, in *high colours*, the misery and destitution brought by the drunkard upon his family. A band of singers rendered effective service at intervals between the speeches. John Ridley was Chairman. The meeting presented a union of all the religious denominations in the town, not excepting that Church which has been least favourable, though it ought to have been foremost. I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,

Hexham, Aug. 9, 1841. J. R.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM'S CHARGE.

WE have stated in a previous page that the Bishop of Durham held a visitation on Monday, at St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle, and delivered a charge to the assembled clergy. Since our paragraph was put into type, we have received the *Great Northern Advertiser* of Thursday, and find therein a report of his lordship's charge, which we transfer to our columns;—

MY REVEREND BRETHREN,—There have been so many acts of parliament, connected with the situation of the Church, passed since I last addressed you, and these acts are so large, and constitute such a mass that I consider it impossible, on this occasion, to deal with them even in a summary manner, without trespassing upon that time which ought to be devoted to matters of more pressing urgency: because, in such matters as allude more directly to changes which effect the efficiency of the Clergy and the spiritual welfare of all, I am bound to comfort and instruct you. I am far from implying that it is not of importance to us all to make ourselves acquainted with those laws which may be propounded for our spiritual as well as for our temporal welfare. As it is the duty of all good members of society to make themselves acquainted with the laws, so ought the members of our profession to make themselves acquainted with those laws which particularly relate to themselves. Acts of parliament are now accessible to every one, at an expense quite insignificant; and the younger members of the church will find everything relating to them digested by Mr. Hodgson, in his instructions to the clergy. They should, therefore, be ready to get all the means of information which it is in their power to get, and not apply to me, except in cases of real doubt and difficulty. Some of the clergy neglect to acquaint themselves with the modes of proceeding in certain cases, and thereby occasion me a degree of inconvenience. Some take their places in the diocese without ever communicating with me; but this should not be done. No one can settle in any diocese without permission from the the Bishop, and a regular testimonial. Although the law requires—and it is specified in the margin of most licenses, that every person leaving a place should give three months notice, yet this request is frequently not complied with. Again, a late act of parliament requires, and properly requires, that in every curacy an agreement shall be made and information of the same sent to the diocesan, by which the curate and the incumbent pledge themselves that the one will not offer, nor the other accept, less than the stipend specified in the license. I am not aware of any fraudulent intention since the act passed: but I have been assured that endeavours had been made to take advantage of young men's anxiety to obtain situations, notwithstanding the solemn engagements entered into. I expressed my belief that these statements originated in mistake, but the very appearance of such proceedings should be avoided. Being a party to them renders a man unfit for society, and deprives him of the claim to common honesty. In adverting to other matters which concern the interests of that branch of Christ's Church established in these realms, my attention is now called to the obligation which rests upon me, in this our day of solemn meeting, in alluding to subjects upon which, however reluctant, I am called upon to address you. My duty is to lay before the clergy my opinion upon points relative to our common profession—to the ministry of our Lord and Master whom we serve, to the manner in which we should serve him, to the doctrines we are engaged to teach, to the discipline we are bound to maintain, and the charity we are called upon to inculcate and to practice. This our periodical meeting involves upon me the necessity of adverting to points like these,

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honestly and without reserve, but at the same time with that kindness which we all wish to exhibit; and though some of my brethren may differ with me, yet it is more calculated to promote the end we have in view, that I should speak on those subjects which are necessary, rather than on those which might be pleasing to you. I need not say how much I should rejoice if the sentiments I deliver should find an entire concurrence with your own; but by the constitution of the human mind, it is liable to error, and a perfect concurrence cannot always be expected. In these times, when men's minds are raised to an unusual and unnatural pitch of excitement, and when philosophical speculation and the rage for something new is so widely extended, it was very natural that these should have produced an influence on the Church. On that ground some difference may be found, and some of you may entertain views contrary to mine; but it is my duty to express my sentiments, and to express them kindly, as it is yours to listen with respectful attention. I claim, therefore, your dispassionate and careful consideration for my observations; and if I may not be so fortunate as to meet your immediate assent, let us ask, by prayer, for the holy influences of the spirit of truth, to enable me to explain, and you to listen to the result, so that there may be a more perfect knowledge of what is indispensable for us to teach, and a firmer union of purpose in accomplishing the ends we have in view, and of promoting the interests of that pure and apostolical branch of the Church to which we belong, and which is established by law in these realms. Without further preface, allow me to express my deep concern, that instead of employing their learning and abilities in healing dissensions, some members of our Church have embarked in the perilous enterprise of bringing out fresh elements of discord. It is scarcely necessary to state, that I allude to the authors of those publications which advocate opinions bordering upon those against which the Reformers contended. I mean such as relate to the doctrine of transubstantiation, and to the authority of the Church inordinately extended. I suppose I need hardly vindicate myself from the suspicion of being influenced by any intolerant or bigoted feelings towards conscientious adherents of the Church of Rome. With many members of that Church I have a personal acquaintance, and have had much social intercourse; and I acknowledge thus publicly the many marks of courtesy and attention I have received from them; but with little justice could I allow private feeling to prevent me from discharging my duty in condemning the writers of the publications I have alluded to. It has not been my fortune to have any intercourse with any of those able writers except one; but personal feeling has no part in a place like the present; for, in a matter affecting doctrine, it would be culpable to allow of any private considerations, and nothing but stringent necessity compels me to adopt this course. Without any prospect of advantage, the writers of these tracts have undertaken to disturb the peace of the Church; for men of common prudence must have seen that they were about to provoke a discussion upon which serious difference must be anticipated. They allege a departure from the Rubric as a justification of the appearance of the Tracts. I am not aware of any particular in which the Rubric has been transgressed; but if such had been the case, it could have been remedied by an appeal to the proper parties, the heads of the Church. Neither do I recollect any alarm at the state of doctrine in the Church, though some apprehensions were entertained as to its internal condition; but if these writers took up a creed to examine it in the hope of improving the doctrine of the Church, the result has been unfortunate. So far from adding to the purity of faith, they have had a tendency in the opposite direction. The effect of the principles there laid down is by inference to recommend a return to, and regard as important, antique forms and ceremonies, by which the authority of the Church should be increased, and bygone superstitions revived. The placing of candlesticks is treated of as a matter of great consequence, while contempt is thrown upon the name of Protestant; attempts are made to explain away the meaning of our Articles, so that they may agree more with those of the Church of Rome. Under these circumstances, however painful the task of differing from men of such great abilities, I considered it incumbent upon me to declare my disapprobation: and I feel no little satisfaction to find, by the address of our venerable Primate to the assembled clergy, that he agrees with me. In the celebration of Divine service, they contend for the introduction of novelties, and for the revival of uses which have become obsolete, which is only calculated to engender dissatisfaction and dissension. As regards the introduction of novelties, some of them might be beneficial, but they are unimportant; and it is better to forego advantageous changes, than to create fresh sources of misapprehension and strife. Those who have shown so much anxiety to revive ancient customs and traditionary forms would have done well to recollect that what the Fathers wrote was matter of opinion confided to those who succeeded them, and founded on the invariable Word of God, which is kept entire by the established order of His Providence. To this they should have directed their attention. In the dissection of dark passages of Scripture, their learning might have been employed to some service; and if they were acquainted at the same time with the writings of the Fathers, those writings would have assisted them; though my opinion is that the writings of the Fathers have been rated at too high a value. Of a thorough knowledge of the original language the Fathers were almost all ignorant; and a study of the best critical expounders will, with God's assistance, be the best help to arrive at the truth as it is in Jesus. Let us read the Holy Scriptures. Let us diligently search in the well of life, and not in men's traditions. The Scriptures teach us what we should do, and how we ought to live, and they are from the hand of God. Well am I aware that an Episcopal charge should not be made the vehicle of a regular controversy. Your unceasing ministerial labours leave little leisure for the subtleties of novel speculation; far less could any charge suffice for examination into even a small portion of what extends over nearly one hundred tracts, and has called forth nearly as many volumes in reply; but the importance of the subject justifies me in calling your attention to it. Error in general spreads widely, but when it is supported by the more thinking part of the public, it spreads still more rapidly, and teems with the most direful consequences. With all the mitigations that charity requires, it cannot but be said that these tracts tend to assimilate the Church of Rome to our own, and to shake the confidence of the less learned in our Scriptural formularies. In quitting this painful subject, let me remark that I am not insensible to the consequences of misplaced zeal. There is scarcely any source from which error flows more widely; and for this reason, that it takes its rise in good intentions. The admonitions of the zealot are at first received with respect, and then with admiration; and it often happens that the mischief is not perceived till it has taken deep root, and resists every effort to remove it. For the same reason difficulties surround every endeavour to trace its origin, and render the efforts against it unavailing. The character of, and intention of the zealot, confirm the evil. His hearers think that what is only in excess should be protected by the excellence of the motive. But neither of these parties are aware of the deceitfulness of the human heart. A life of singularity, attachment to favourite creeds, the importance of leading a party, all give them a sort of position in society, and conspire to produce error. The desire to be noticed leads people to strike out in some new and extraordinary path, however excellent they may in other respects be, and perhaps unconscious at first of their mistake. Your own observation will suggest innumerable evils which injudicious zeal is calculated to produce. So sensible am I of the benefits that arise from moderation, especially on such subjects as are connected with religion, that I could not omit calling upon you to avoid any course of action which zeal prompts and judgment does not sanction. Call constantly to mind the admonition, "See that ye walk circumspectly; let your moderation appear unto all men; if possible, live peaceably with all men." There is one thing which, in various ways, has attracted particular observation, and with which we run little risk of missing our aim. The object is so clear, and the path so straight, that we can hardly go astray. I mean the promotion of general religion, founded upon the word of God—an object which has of late received the bounty of parliament, and towards which some strenuous exertions have been made. The difficulties that at first interposed to disturb that national object have been removed, and those who are interested in the subject are probably not all aware that assistance can be had by application to her Majesty's Privy Council. I do not feel it necessary to say much on this subject, because I adverted to it at length in my charge to the clergy of the archdeaconry of Chichester, in the year 1834. We may now soon have the benefit of education; and I should not be doing justice to you, nor to my own feelings, if I did not bear willing testimony to the earnestness and liberality which has planned and established the means of building additional churches, and of affording the means of raising the necessary funds. The difficulties have been removed in some degree by means of the funds in the management of the ecclesiastical commissioners, which are to be applied to the improvement of small livings, and to the endowment of additional livings in populous districts. A considerable amount has been raised by the suppression of sinecures; but among the rest of the objects to which the funds in the hands of the commissioners is to be applied, you will derive peculiar satisfaction from the permanent endowment, at length, of the University of Durham, with professors and a competent number of fellows. Thus the stimulus which was wanted is supplied; and the opportunity of obtaining a proper academical education will be gladly embraced in the northern counties. The advantages experienced will be not only in the advance of knowledge, but also in the religious improvement of all who may repair to that University to obtain a superior education. In making these observations, I pray that it may please God to help and preserve you, and turn your labours to the good of the Church and the salvation of souls; and that these labours may continue to be undertaken with sound personal faith, and a warm, but well regulated zeal, sanctified and blessed by a life of holiness and a spirit of charity.

FATAL EXPLOSION AT THORNLEY COLLIERY.

THORNLEY is an important colliery, which has been in operation about six years: and this, we understand, is the first serious explosion that has occurred. The population, according to the recent census, is about 2,700, chiefly colliers' families.

To give our readers a better idea of the nature of the locality of the accident, we must premise that the Thornley colliery contains 3 seams. The first is called the five-quarter seam, and its depth is 85 fathoms; the second is the Hutton seam, which is situated at a depth of 145 fathoms; and the third is the seam in which this most melancholy and unfortunate accident occurred, viz., the Harvey seam, which is at a depth of 166 fathoms. This is certainly a great depth, but is only trifling when compared with the Monkwearmouth Colliery, which is upwards of 270 fathoms.

If anything about the catastrophe can be said to have been fortunate, the time at which it occurred may be stated to have been so in the highest degree. It took place on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 5, at fifteen minutes past four, immediately after the principal part of the workmen in the Harvey seam, the hewers, to the number of fifty, had left the pit, and the putters and

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trappers above were left to attend to the ventilation, &c. We may here explain that the trappers are usually boys, and are employed in watching the trap-doors, which regulate and direct the ventilation of the pit. We have said that the putters and trappers alone were left in the pit, but we must except from this category one unfortunate individual, Thomas Haswell, hewer, who is lame, and who has on two occasions been most seriously injured.

Information was immediately given at Thornley Colliery Office, that a serious accident had occurred, and Mr. Heckels, the resident viewer, Mr. Carnes, together with the under-viewer and overman, immediately resolved on descending the shaft, in order that every assistance might be given to any parties who had escaped the explosion; which was only known to the workmen in the other seams by a rushing of the air in the staple, which led them to the conclusion that something was wrong in the Harvey seam. In the mean-time the news of the fatal accident spread like wildfire through the village, and even to the adjacent district, and the whole population had assembled at the bank of the pit; for few could be certain that they had not suffered some melancholy bereavement. All were anxious—all were interested. Great numbers of persons from Kelloe and Wingate, both of which are also colliery villages, had also arrived; and amongst those from the latter place was Mr. Seymour, the visiting viewer of Thornley, who resides at Wingate, which colliery, we believe, is also under his direction.

Mr. Heckels and the gentleman who had descended the pit had, by this time, ascertained that the accident had originated in the north west direction from the shaft. Mr. H., however, despatched parties in different directions, himself and the overmen examining the district where the accident had occurred; and, accordingly, his party found the bodies of those who had been killed, confined to a space of 200 yards in the north-west district of the Harvey seam. Two horses were also found dead. The villagers remained in anxious suspense for the period of one hour, during which Mr. Heckles and his party were engaged in bringing the bodies up the shaft.—It must not be imagined, however, that those who had been only injured remained so long down the shaft; for it is due to the activity of the parties concerned, to say that in a quarter of an hour they were all "at bank." They were all able to walk to their respective homes, excepting Jonathan Gardener, who died in about five hours after leaving the pit.

The following is a correct list of the unfortunate sufferers:—

Killed.—Thomas Haswell, overman, 42; Peter Graydon, driver, 11; George Ord, flatman, 17; Robert Gardener, trapper, 9; Thomas Hall, putter, 18; John Graham, putter, 16; George Graham, putter, 17; John Armstrong, putter, 15; Jonathan Gardener, putter, 16.

Seriously injured.—George Crozier, wayleaver; James Maudlin, overman; Thomas Pile, trapper.

The following, though in the same division of the pit, escaped uninjured:—John Humble, trapper; George Gillings, driver; R. Palmer, putter; J. Wilson, trapper; Wm. Willis, trapper; M. Gardener, hewer; Thomas Welch, putter; W. Eltringham, putter; Andrew Bones, water-leader; William Woollett, water-leader; George Hogan, shifter; Thomas Atkinson, shifter.

With respect to the condition in which they found the pit, little difference was observable in its aspect. There were a few board-end stoppings, or wood partitions, which had been violently knocked out of the ends of the galleries which they inclosed. These were immediately restored in order to renew the ventilation, and this was effected in about three quarters of an hour.

Having ascertained the number killed and injured, we were induced to visit the houses in which were the bodies of the two unfortunate Gardeners. It was, indeed, "a house of mourning," and the scene which presented itself was truly heart-rending. In the first room were stretched on the humble but cleanly-looking bed, the corpse of the two unfortunate youths, side by side; and in the adjoining room were the unhappy parents, and the surviving children;—the mother inconsolable for her loss, and expecting her accouchement hourly: in fact, the cheer which had been provided in anticipation of that event, has been made available for funeral purposes. The little boy, Robert Gardener, had left school but ten days previously; and his twin brother, who is also engaged in the colliery, had fortunately been detained at home in consequence of having sustained a trifling accident, and thus escaped his brother's fate. There were five of this family in the pit at the time of the explosion, but the father and other two sons escaped without injury.

Jonathan and George Graham, who were also brothers, were the principal support of a large family of thirteen, who had only been resident in Thornley since the last "binding," having removed from South Church near Auckland.

George Ord was an interesting and very intelligent young man—he was an orphan; and had previously been at sea; but left it, assigning as the reason, that as a collier he thought his life would not be so much in jeopardy as at sea.

Thomas Haswell is the only married man who has suffered; he sustained a fracture on the leg about a year ago, and was very lame in consequence.—*Northern Times.*

On Saturday forenoon, an inquest was held at the Thornley colliery inn, before Mr. Maynard and a respectable jury. After several witnesses had been examined the jury returned the following verdict—"That Peter Gradon and eight others, on the 5th of August, were accidentally killed by an explosion of inflammable gas in the Harvey seam of Thornley colliery; but how or by what means such explosion was caused, the jurors cannot say."—In the evening the bodies of the whole of the sufferers were interred in the churchyard of the adjoining quiet little villiage of Kelloe.

The Countess of Durham has made a donation of five guineas to the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms.

The Rev. William Atkinson, Rector of Gateshead Fell, gave his annual treat to the teachers and children of the Sunday-school of that parish, on Saturday last, by an excursion in the Port of Tyne Steam Navigation Company's spacious and beautiful steamer, the *Mercury*, to Marsden Rock—when, after being plentifully regaled, they spent a most delightful day. The party, consisting of upwards of 220, were accompanied by the worthy Rector and his Curate, the Rev. F. W. Bewsher. Nothing could exceed the kindness and attention shown by the reverend gentlemen to their young friends, whose happy faces more eloquently than words expressed their pleasure and gratitude. "How pleasing (observes our informant) is the task to record the worthy clergyman's conduct in thus following the example of his Great Master, who said—'Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not.' We sincerely congratulate our neighbours in having such an excellent pastor, whose daily practice illustrates another divine precept, viz., 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SOCIETY.

In 1838, the Friends of Religious Freedom in Newcastle-upon-Tyne formed themselves into a Society for the Promotion of Religious Equality.

The sufferings of several individuals of worth, by the operation of the Church-Rate Levies, and the tyrannical proceedings of Ecclesiastical Courts, were at that time noised abroad; and in a short space, a large number of friends, principally Dissenters, but including also in their ranks some enlightened members of the Established Church, responded to the call of freedom, and expressed their cordial sympathy with the general objects of our Society.

Our Local Committee, conceiving that Religious Freedom should keep pace with Civil Freedom, or rather that it might be its guardian and lead the way, have been anxious observers of the course which political and ecclesiastical events have taken of late years. We have watched, not inactively, over the fearful struggle which has been going on for some time, between a progressive People and a retrograding Church—between the masses hungering and thirsting for enlightenment and a happier social adjustment, and a faction leagued at all hazards to keep down the outburstings of the popular intelligence. It has been felt as a matter of painful alarm by many of us, that while there are not a few civil grievances to complain of, the element of religious bitterness should be largely mingled in the cup of the popular discontent. The only symptoms on which we rested a hope of melioration, while the masses were demanding political reforms in vain, were the lights which were gradually breaking in upon the dimly defined evils of their own moral condition, and the dark places of our ecclesiastical system.

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We rejoiced in the progress of those Institutions promotive of Industry and Intellectual Improvement, as also in those Associations for Mutual Relief, wherein some noble efforts have been put forth by the people to redeem themselves. But our hopeful anticipations have been all at once clouded, since the faction which has systematically resisted the improvement of our social institutions has gained the ascendant—by what pious frauds and political indirection, we pause not now to explain. Suffice it to say, that the faction which so recklessly and tyrannically opposed the Catholic Emancipation Bill—the faction which has urged on its lingering persecutions against that most estimable portion of the Christian community, the Society of Friends, nurturing, as it were, its old blood of despotism upon their yearly sufferings—the faction which dared even to express its wish to carry desecration into the very homes of Dissenters in general, refusing the niggard boon of the recent Marriage Act—this faction sheds its baleful influence once more over our soil, of which we used to boast that whosoever touched it was free!

At such a time, we feel it as an incumbent duty on us to raise here the standard of Religious Freedom, and rally around us the friends of the public safety—to place ourselves, as it were, between the people and the wasting plague—to follow the leadings of Providence, which seems to point the way to Civil Liberty through Moral and Religious Freedom.

We know that many have felt, within the pale as without it, that the religious Establishments of our country worked ill in securing the confidence and loyalty of a people which they *tolerated* and oppressed. Some of our wisest legislators have proclaimed that Reformation was still imperatively required in the social relations of our National Churches. Statesmen as well as divines have ventured to speak of ritual alterations, and retrenchments, and change. But instead of encouraging those arrangements which the cause of religion and the welfare of the community demand, High Churchmen, in all parts of the empire, seem determined, in the blindness of their zeal, to resist all measures of real and substantial reform. Forgetting their own position in relation to other portions of our present social system, they are boldly aspiring, not merely after independence, but supremacy. Clinging with the greatest tenacity to their official emoluments, while regardless of the conditions under which they were granted, they have, in certain instances, indignantly spurned the control of those secular authorities from which their distinct ecclesiastical existence was derived, and under which, by the funds of the State, they are supported. A spiritual tyranny is thus fostered, which strives to trample down at once the rights of conscience and the rights of property among their fellow-men. Hence the insidious plans which have been broached of late on the subjects of Church Extension and Sectarian Education. Hence the necessity of Church Pastoral Aid Societies:—and hence it is that Ecclesiastical Courts, long dormant, have evoked from the dark ages the demon of religious strife, and uttered their fierce thunders, breaking in upon the sanctuary of widowed sorrow, and casting the conscientious Dissenter into prison, because he may not contribute to rites and ceremonies of which in his soul he disapproves. Hence the strange anomaly which our Establishments present:—the Non-Intrusionists of Scotland lifting up their voice against patronage, and at the same time kissing their political chains; while the Oxford Divines are engaged in feverish efforts to revive that ancient divine right once wielded so effectively by the foreign Roman See. Hence the reaction of a strong-minded people!

These, truly, are bewildering times for the Church—more bewildering still for the State, which is wedded to its wide-spreading evils, its enormous incumbrances!

The path of the friends of Religious Freedom, at the present crisis, is clear, though attended with difficulties and discouragements: and that is, to demonstrate to our legislators that there is but one and the same strong feeling operating in the friends of Religious Freedom throughout the great communities of the empire—a determination to aid the popular cause by all legitimate means—to improve the condition of the people by enlightening them—thus to prepare them, through Moral and Religious Freedom, for Civil Liberty and Enfranchisement. It is on these grounds that we summon around us the friends of religion and good government.

If we believe that Christianity is a Divine Dispensation from the Great Parent of the Human Race—that it is an imperishable element in social progress—if it came from the lips of its heavenly Author as the proclamation of Spiritual Freedom for every child of Adam—if it existed independently and in despite of civil authorities, until an interested priesthood sacrificed its integrity at the shrine of Mammon and of worldly power—if we find, from the history of Christianity, that its perversion, and the consequent retardation of human progress, have arisen from its alliance with secular Governments—our bounden duty, in obedience to the great and true Head of the Church, is to attend to His divine instruction in all things pertaining to humanity as well as to godliness, and to guard against those temptations which Governments may hold out, and the tide which a fashionable exhibition of ritual worship may float around us, to draw us aside into unconscientious conformity. Whilst it is our duty to bear in a Christian spirit, but with no marks of servile contentment, the contrasted humiliations to which as Dissenters we are exposed—the bitter persecutions which are directed against us; yet we must not place in jeopardy those rights of Free Inquiry and of Individual Judgment in which our civilization is wrapped up. It is our duty as Christians and as good citizens, while we discountenance, as far as in us lies, the ecclesiastical corruptions which have sprung up in connection with ancient political usurpations, and which hang as dead weights on our national prosperity—it is our privilege, as it is our happiness, to offer a willing, and generous, and efficient service for the public good, ever bearing in mind the important precept of our Divine Master, which contains in itself the union of a rational Loyalty and of a respectful Dissent, to "render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's."

In publishing the Principles, Objects, and Rules of our Society, (hereto annexed,) we herewith call upon the friends of religious freedom in this district to enrol themselves as members at an early opportunity, that, by our numbers and by our union throughout the land, we may present a barrier of power against the progress of ecclesiastical domination.

RUSSELL BLACKBIRD.
JAMES PRINGLE.
GEORGE BELL.
JOSEPH M'ALISTER.
JOSEPH FORSYTH.
JAMES CLEPHAN.
ROBERT BANKS.
THOMAS GRAY.
M. S. DODDS.
THOMAS M'CREE, Jun.
ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS.
W. A. WHINFIELD.
JOSEPH BAILEY.
JAMES POTTS.
WILLIAM TURNER.
WILLIAM GREAVES.
ALEXANDER BERTRAM.
JAMES REWCASTLE.
DAVID ADAM.
JOHN BRADBURN.
CALEB ANGAS WINDRATT.
ROBERT HOOD HAGGIE.
WILLIAM ANDERSON.
JAMES RICHARDSON.
EDWARD TASKER.
ALEXANDER REID.
ROBERT PRATT.
GEORGE CHARLETON.
THOMAS GLAHOLM.
WILLIAM ANGUS.
W. S. PRINGLE.
J. F. GRANT.
ROBERT CRAGGS.
W. WAILES.
RICHARD GARLICK.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

1. That it is the paramount duty (and therefore the inalienable right) of every man to worship God according to his religious convictions of the Divine will, as expressed in the Holy Scriptures.

2. That to compel any one to contribute to the support of religious institutes of which he disapproves, or of the ministers of a church from which he conscientiously dissents, is

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manifestly unjust, and at variance with the spirit and principles of Christianity.

3. That State Establishments, by which any particular church or sect is selected as the object of political favour and patronage, and its clergy are invested with exclusive rights and secular pre-eminence, involve a violation of equity towards other denominations, create serious impediments to the propagation of Divine truth, render religious union impracticable, and are the occasion of inevitable social discord.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

1. To secure an efficient co-operation between the friends of religious liberty in the British empire, in defence of their common rights and privileges.

2. To provide and maintain an effective agency for watching the progress of legislation in its bearings upon the interests of religious liberty; and for opposing, by all legitimate means, the passing of bills, or clauses of bills, infringing upon the rights of conscience; as well as for procuring the introduction and support of such bills as may be necessary to remedy existing grievances.

3. To obtain and diffuse information, especially among Members of Parliament, relating to any pending question involving religious considerations; to undertake the publication, when necessary, of papers or tracts explaining or vindicating the fundamental principles of this union; to promote, upon any urgent occasion, petitons to Parliament; and to facilitate any general demonstration of public opinion in favour of such principles.

4. To collect, arrange, and preserve statistical returns, Parliamentary papers, and other documents bearing upon the religious liberties of the community; and to provide a depository for records of the same description, as well as a registry of legal cases and decisions affecting such interests.

5. To afford legal advice and aid to any parties exposed to injustice and persecution on account of their asserting the rights of conscience.

6. To correspond with Missionaries and others in the British colonies, whose circumstances may require the interposition of the Government at home, or of the Imperial Parliament.

7. To co-operate, by information or advice, in promoting the return to Parliament of suitable representatives attached to the principles of religious liberty.

8. To aid in promoting the extension of religious liberty throughout the world.

RULES.

1. That the business of this society shall be conducted by a Committee of 24 persons, chosen annually from among the subscribers, together with a Treasurer and Secretaries, who shall meet monthly for the dispatch of business.

2. Persons subscribing 2s. 6d. or upwards, annually, shall be considered members of the society: the subscription to be payable in the month of April.

3. The anniversary of the society shall be holden in Newcastle or Gateshead, in the month of October.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 6th Aug., 1841.

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.—Mr. Justice Coleridge, at the Hereford assizes, adverted to the increase of the number of prisoners for trial, and then addressed the Grand Jury as follows:—" Gentlemen, these are circumstances, certainly, that must excite great pain in the minds of all thinking men, and they leave certain inferences unfavourable to what has been going on for the improvement of society, and in favour of the education of the lower classes. Notwithstanding this, I have long been of opinion that we must and ought to look well to education, as one great means of reducing the amount of offences. Crime is increasing, and it is said education is advancing: this, certainly, argues badly for the cause, but I believe education has never been properly carried out, and that it will be found, when properly carried out, that it will produce a good and salutary effect. Now, with respect to education and crime, it is remarkable that out of the 27,187 persons committed, in England and Wales, in the last seven years, 9,058 could neither read nor write, and 15,109 could only read and write imperfectly, leaving only 3,020 persons who could be said to have received any education at all; because I consider that, though reading and writing may be very valuable, yet as far as regards the effects on the moral conduct of the individual, the man may be said to have received no education at all, at least he has not received it to that extent to regulate his mind and habits. On looking over the state of education of criminals, when we find 24,167 persons out of 27,187 persons committed who have received no education at all, we are certainly led to the conclusion that it is not the educated persons who commit crime; and it is reasonable to suppose, that if we educated more, the number of persons committed would be diminished in proportion. In order to carry out further the test of the effects of education, I would allude to the number of persons transported; and in doing so must, first of all, observe, that as capital punishments have been very much diminished by the different alterations that have taken place, we are obliged to keep transportation for the more serious kinds of crime, than when we had recourse to capital punishments. Out of 4,105 persons transported, 3,715 were persons who had received no education at all. This, therefore, again shows that it is from the uneducated persons that we get crimes of aggravated nature. With reference to this county, I find 16 persons were transported last year: of these, 13 out of the 16 had received no education at all, two were persons who could read and write well, and one only had a superior education. The result of this examination is very satisfactory, as to the necessity of promoting, whenever we can promote, the moral and religious education of the people."—*Hereford Times.*

TO THE BURGESSES OF ST. NICHOLAS AND THE OTHER WARDS OF NEWCASTLE.

GENTLEMEN,—The reports in the last week's papers of the proceedings that took place in the Town Council, relative to my motion concerning the conduct of the Chairman of the River Committee, being so very short, I think it but right, and only what is due to both you and myself, to put you in possession of a more detailed account of the proceedings, that you may be enabled to judge of the propriety of my motion, and the decision that was come to on it. The motion, you will be aware, was as follows:—" That the conduct and proceedings of the Chairman of the River Committee (Mr. Potter) respecting the parties accused of improper practices in the river-works, have tended to check rather than to promote inquiry and detection, and merit accordingly the censure of this Council."

The following are some of the reasons and circumstances that induced me to make the above charge, and I shall state them in as short and concise a manner as possible.

When I complained to Mr. Potter, as chairman of the river committee, that Southern, the contractor for removing Bill point, had refused to allow a keel-load of material about to be thrown within the groins to be weighed, and which in the opinion of persons competent to judge did not contain two-thirds of the quantity charged, Mr. Potter gave Southern, at the very moment, and in my presence, the preference in a contract for taking the ballast out of the ships at the groins, notwithstanding there were other proposals as low as Southern's; and when, in adition to this, another charge was made against Southern, viz., of having charged 135 tons of stones and soil in a hopper barge, which, on being weighed, contained only 90 tons, and the London barge, charged 65 tons, only contained 50—I consider it was the chairman of the river committee's duty to have instituted an immediate inquiry, and allowed me to appear as a witness; but instead of doing so, he and some others, who invariably support him and oppose me, right or wrong, ruled that my evidence could not be taken, notwithstanding I offered to give it on oath; but Mr. Potter was not satisfied with this, but absolutely, in conjunction with the following members of the river committee—Messrs. Dodds, Robinson, Stokoe, Blackwell, and Lowrey—gave Mr. Hughes, the engineer's clerk, (and then acting for Mr. Anderson, on account of illness,) orders to inquire after persons capable of giving evidence on those matters, not on both sides, but on one side only: that is, to rebut my charges. Mr. Hughes, on this occasion, showed himself a most diligent agent. Knowing what Mr. Potter and those gentlemen wished to effect, he got Mr. Southern, the accused person, to accompany him in a gig, and they travelled in this way above a hundred miles—to Reedsdale, Stockton, &c., neither considering time, trouble, nor expense, evidently to screen Southern, and to prevent, not to *promote*, detection; but not content with this, on the morning of the investigation, I found him (Hughes) in the engineer's private office with Southern and his witnesses, sitting at a table getting off their lessons. Instead of conduct like this, I consider it was Mr.

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Hughes's duty, and the duty of the chairman of the river committee, to instruct him that it was incumbent on him to watch the conduct of contractors and the persons employed by the corporation in his department, and to see that the corporation had justice done them, and that they were not imposed upon or defrauded by any one. Mr. Potter has presented a report to the Council, but not till he was in some measure compelled to do so, wherein he states that Southern must in future be strictly looked after; but why does he not state the reason why this has become necessary, because if he had done so, Southern's contracts must and would have been taken from him.

You, Gentlemen, may probably be at a loss to account for Mr. Potter's appearing to be so desirous of screening and protecting this person, Southern, and keeping him in possession of his contracts. You must know, then, that Mr. Potter has a public-house a short distance from the groins at Walker. This house had so little trade—not drawing more, if so much, as one half-barrel of ale per week—that it was not worth occupying, and was standing empty. Mr. Potter, at the time Hughes carried Southern about in the gig, had let this house to Southern: therefore Hughes was doing a favour to Mr. Potter by showing such kindness to his tenant. Southern now occupies the house, and of course Mr. Potter and he are equally interested in getting trade to it. The sign was the Half Moon, which has been taken down, and replaced with a splendid new sign, representing a ship delivering ballast at the groins, with "Stephen Southern" written under it in large letters: indeed it would be a complete and beautiful picture, if the portraits of the chairman and vice-chairman were added, and placed on each side as supporters. To show the importance and value of the contracts to this house, Southern, in answer to a person who asked him why he did not immediately go into the house, it being empty, said he would do so, but he was afraid Mr. Straker would be getting his contracts taken from him, and then, you know (he added), it would be of no use.

Mr. Justice Nichol, Mr. Wm. Mitchell, Mr. Robinson, and some other members of the Council, praise Ald. Potter; but I am certain if the old corporation had been guilty of such conduct, it would have been called shameful and disgraceful jobbing, and deservedly so. In conclusion, I beg to assure you that I am not influenced or actuated by any personal motives. I believe Mr. Potter to be, in many respects, a very amiable man; but it is Mr. Potter's public conduct I now bring before you; and neither the pain it may occasion to my own feelings, or to those of others, shall ever prevent me performing what I consider to be a public duty.

I shall probably address a few lines to you next week. Till then, I remain, most respectfully, Gentlemen,

Your devoted Servant,

Eldon-street, July 11th, 1841. GEO. STRAKER.

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS for UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN.

Amount formerly advertised £400 6 1

Lord Ravensworth, (additional)	£5	0	William Dunn	£2	2
Lady Ravensworth (ditto)	2	10	J. B. Pearson	1	1
Matt. Bell, Esq., M.P.	5	0	J. Barras, Esq., Gateshead	2	2
Walker, Parker, & Co.	5	5	Wm. Brown, Turf Hotel	1	1
Robert Todd	2	2	S. C. H. Ogle, Esq., M.P.	5	0
G. Fenninger	1	1	James Simpson	1	1
George Finlay	1	1	The Incorporated Company of Weavers	1	0
H. & P. Nairn	3	3	Currie & Garthwaite	1	1
William Cuthbert, jun., Esq.	2	2	W. R. Rayne, Haughton Mill	1	0
Mrs. Errington, Warden	1	0	Angus & Southern	1	1
Mrs. Isabella Errington, Warden	1	0	W. Robson, Wharfinger	1	1

ROBERT ROBINSON, Treasurer.
W. L. HARLE, Secretary.

Subscription Lists lie at the Banks in Newcastle; at Mr. Gharnley's, Bookseller, Bigg Market; Mr. Heaton's, Bookseller, Sandhill; the Exchange News Room, Sandhill; and the Central Exchange News Room.

CHURCH PERSECUTION.—On a board placed near the east end of a new chapel, now in the course of being erected at Windy Nook, under the auspices of Rev. M. Plummer, curate of Heworth, near Gateshead, appears the following astounding announcement:—"Any person found *trespassing on these grounds, or damaging these works*, will be *persecuted*." What would Mr. Snowgrass's pointer have thought, had he seen this?

The following is a statement of letters delivered in the United Kingdom:—

Week ending June 20, 1841	3,773,136
" " June 21, 1840	3,221,206
" " Nov. 24, 1839	1,585,973
Increase since 1840 on the week's letters	551,930
" " 1839 " "	2,187,163

The following is the latest statement of London letters, through the general and district posts:—

	General.	District.
Four weeks ending Aug 7, 1841	5,488,916	1,694,702
Corresponding period of 1840	3,928,687	1,548,003
Ditto (as far as can be given), 1839	1,620,413	1,021,386
Increase since 1840 on the four weeks' letters	1,560,229	146,699
" 1839 " "	3,868,503	673,316

THE FINE OLD ENGLISH GENTLEMAN.
NEW VERSION.

[TO BE SAID OR SUNG AT ALL TORY DINNERS.]

(From the Examiner.)

I'LL sing you a new ballad, and I'll warrant it first-rate,
Of the days of that old gentleman who had that old estate;
When they spent the public money at a bountiful old rate
On ev'ry mistress, pimp, and scamp, at ev'ry noble gate,
In the fine old English Tory times;
Soon may they come again!

The good old laws were garnished well with gibbets, whips, and chains,
With fine old English penalties, and fine old English pains,
With rebel heads, and seas of blood once hot in rebel veins;
For all these things were requisite to guard the rich old gains
Of the fine old English Tory times;
Soon may they come again!

This brave old code, like Argus, had a hundred watchful eyes,
And ev'ry English peasant had his good old English spies,
To tempt his starving discontent with fine old English lies,
Then call the good old Yeomanry to stop his peevish cries,
In the fine old English Tory times;
Soon may they come again!

The good old times for cutting throats that cried out in their need,
The good old times for hunting men who held their fathers' creed,
The good old times when William Pitt, as all good men agreed,
Came down direct from Paradise at more than railroad speed—
Oh the fine old English Tory times;
When will they come again!

In those rare days, the press was seldom known to snarl or bark,
But sweetly sang of men in pow'r, like any tuneful lark;
Grave judges, too, to all their evil deeds were in the dark;
And not a man in twenty score knew how to make his mark.
Oh the fine old English Tory times;
Soon may they come again!

Those were the days for taxes, and for war's infernal din;
For scarcity of bread, that fine old dowagers might win;
For shutting men of letters up, through iron bars to grin,
Because they didn't think the Prince was altogether thin,
In the fine old English Tory times;
Soon may they come again!

But Tolerance, though slow in flight, is strong-wing'd in the main;
That night must come on these fine days, in course of time, was plain;
The pure old spirit struggled, but its struggles were in vain;
A nation's grip was on it, and it died in choking pain,
With the fine old English Tory days,
All of the olden time.

The bright old day now dawns again; the cry runs through the land,
In England there shall be dear bread—in Ireland, sword and brand;
And poverty, and ignorance, shall swell the rich and grand,
So, rally round the rulers with the gentle iron band,
Of the fine old English Tory days;
Hail to the coming time!

NORTH OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

THE Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture will be opened in the course of the present month, in the Society's Rooms, Market-street.

Works of Art may be forwarded to Mr. Proctor, the keeper of the rooms, on or before Monday, the 16th inst.

Many Pictures are sold through the agency of the Art Union.

T. M. GREENHOW,
W. LOCKEY HARLE, } Secretaries.

Newcastle, August 6, 1841.

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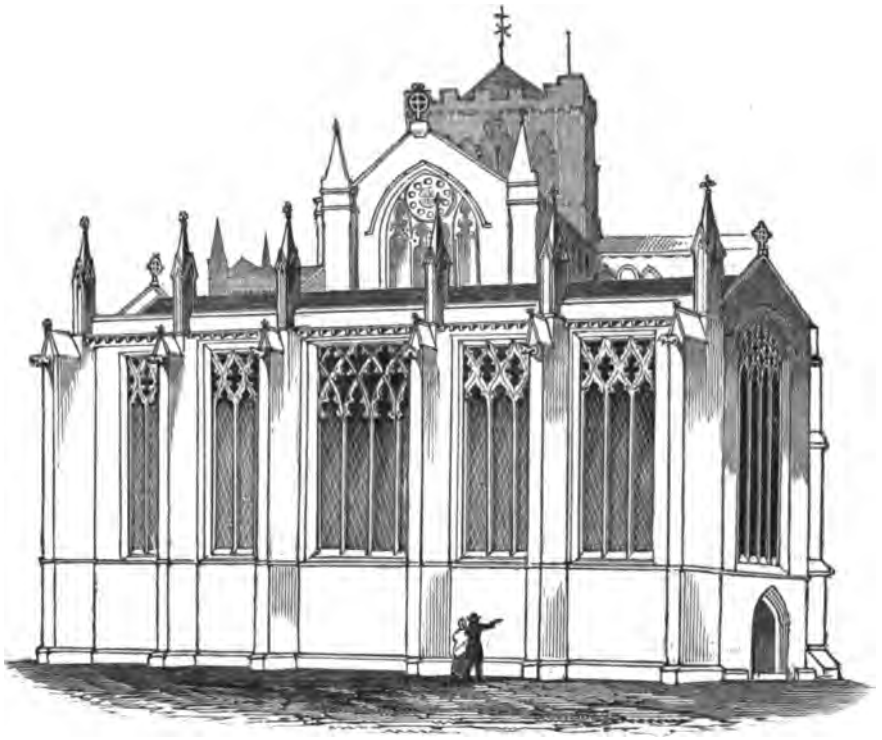
RESTORATION OF THE ABBEY CHURCH AT HEXHAM.



THE CHURCH, WITH THE "LADYE CHAPEL" RESTORED.

For this view we are indebted to Mr. BILLINGS. The Report of the Restoration Committee, given below, refers to *two* views by that gentleman:—one of the church *as it now stands*—the other, of the "Ladye Chapel," as it will appear *when restored*. We would have given both of these views, but our engraver, Mr. NICHOLSON, of Newcastle, could not execute them on wood in sufficient time for their appearance in this day's *Observer*. We have therefore done the best we could, under the circumstances. We have given, through the assistance of Mr. NICHOLSON, an amalgamation of the two sketches by Mr. BILLINGS; and the reader will understand, that the tower, and also the choir, are now standing, just as they are represented in the engraving; but that the "LADYE CHAPEL" in front, with the five windows, is in a ruined condition, and concealed by mean erections, excepting three of the windows, which are exposed to view by the removal of two houses for the purpose of being rebuilt. Mr. BILLINGS has sketched this portion of the church as it originally stood, and as it will once more appear, when restored by the liberality and good taste of the public. "The style of the architecture," says Mr. WRIGHT, in his *History of Hexham*, "particularly the long, narrow, sharp-pointed windows, which began to be used in the reign of Henry the First, seems to fix decidedly the date of at least great part of the present church."

PUBLIC MEETING IN HEXHAM.

FORMER numbers of the *Observer* have made our readers aware of the projected restoration of the east front of the Abbey Church of Hexham. This portion of the edifice had long been obscured by a row of mean houses, barbarously built against the walls and windows of the chapel; and these modern erections having gone to decay, two or three of them were recently pulled down, with a view to their removal. It was also proposed that the new buildings should be a story higher, thereby still further hiding the church from public view. This proceeding, however, has been arrested, and, it is hoped, may altogether be averted, by the good taste and liberality of the present generation. The paltry erections in question had long been condemned by public opinion; and it only required the proposal to renew and perpetuate them, to rouse right-feeling men to the rescue of the church from this indignity. Mr. A. B. Wright, in his *History of Hexham*, published nearly twenty years ago, observes:—"The west side of the market-place is formed by a screen of houses, deforming and partly concealing the church;" and speaking with regard to the interior as well as the exterior of the venerable pile, he reproachfully adds:—"Time has been less busy to destroy, than barbarous taste has been eager to deface."

Several of the inhabitants of Hexham, anxious that they at least should be free from blame in this matter, met in the Moot Hall on the 3d inst., (Edward Glynn, Esq., Deputy Bailiff, in the chair,) to devise measures for the prevention of the re-entombment of the east-front of the church, and for the correction of modern "improvements" in the interior. A committee was appointed to treat with "the proprietors of the houses adjoining the church, for the purchase of their respective properties, in order to their removal," and the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, the 17th inst.

We attended the adjourned meeting; but, before we report the proceedings, it will, we think, be acceptable to the public, if we preface them with a few extracts from Mr. Wright's valuable *History of Hexham*. In the introduction to his work he observes:—

That portion of the county of Northumberland, which at an early period received, and still partially (though improperly) retains the name of Hexhamshire, possesses many and uncommon claims to notice.

Its church was the third in point of time which was built of stone in these kingdoms, and the first of that nature in the present county of Northumberland. A portion of the original edifice has outlived the ravages of 1150 years; and the succeeding church, which has risen on its ruins, stands in venerable majesty, still dedicated to the service of

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God, and but little altered or impaired by seven centuries of wasteful revolution.

Within its walls repose the ashes of men who were venerated as the lights of an otherwise dark and gloomy age; and some names and objects, sanctified to the greater half of Christian Europe, owe their origin to the church of Hexham, or contribute to the venerable interest it inspires.

The immediate neighbourhood was deemed sacred, and endowed with numerous privileges, of which the most important was the right of sanctuary. * * * * * *

The territory of Hexhamshire, including the three parishes of Hexham, Allendale, and St. John Lee, claims the notice of the historian as a separate bishopric, and as an isolated portion of the archiepiscopal see of York—as the manor of Wilfred of Ripon, John of Beverley, Cardinal Wolsey, and Sir Christopher Hatton.

And in another part of the volume, after stating that "Hexhamshire, once an episcopal see, enjoyed the privileges of a county palatine," he states:—

The bishopric of Hexham was early instituted, and of short duration. It continued independent little more than a century and a half, and was afterwards attached to Lindisfarn, with which it was annexed to Durham. In a fit of royal displeasure, it was severed thence, and given to York. Here it has remained undisturbed since the reign of Henry the First, gradually sinking into oblivion; and the poor remains of all its grandeur—Hexham church and Whitley chapel in Hexhamshire—are still peculiars of the see of York, and (in ecclesiastical affairs) are under the jurisdiction of His Grace the Archbishop.

The last bishop of Hexham (says Mr. Wright) was drowned on his way to Rome, and the dissolution of the priory at the Reformation was sealed in the blood of its last superior, who was hanged at the gates of his monastery!

By an Act passed since Mr. Wright's history was written, (6 William IV., cap. 77), "for carrying into effect" the Reports of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with respect to episcopal dioceses, revenues, &c., the Commissioners were authorized to order that "the diocese of Durham be increased by that part of the county of Northumberland called Hexhamshire," which was then "in the diocese of York;" and this, we believe, was done accordingly.

Mr. Wright—(who, by the way, was the manager of a company of comedians, and, in that capacity, was in the habit of visiting Hexham,)—proceeds to say:—

The ancient parish-church was built by Bishop Wilfrid, about the year 678, and dedicated to the memory of the blessed Virgin Mary. It was a curious work, erected like a tower, and almost round, having four porticoes looking to different quarters. Broken arches, groins, sculptured stones, shields of arms, and a large stone ewer, with other fragments of this ancient building, still remain in the walls of houses in and near St. Mary's-chare. * * * * * *

Wilfrid procured for his church the privilege of *sanctuary*. [A capital offender, flying to sanctuary, obtained his life; and an inferior criminal had all his stripes remitted to him.]

The boundaries of the sanctuary are peculiarly marked. At unequal distances from the town, in the direction of each cardinal point, a pedestal is sunk in the ground, as a socket for a small cross. Of the south cross every trace is now entirely lost. Of that on the west the memory is preserved, and the site pointed out by the name of the "Maiden Cross Fields," in which it stood, about a quarter of a mile from Hexham, on the Carlisle road. The boundary on the east is perfect, and stands about the same distance, on the way to Corbridge, surrounded by the "White Cross Fields." The northern boundary still exists in an imperfect state, behind a hedge, a few yards above Aycombe turnpike gate, on the way to Alnwick. The knoll on which it stands is called the "Cross Bank," and is distant from Hexham two miles and a half.

The "FRID (or FREED) STOOL," the "CHAIR OF PEACE," in which the fugitive took his seat within the church, is still in existence. To seize any one flying to the sanctuary, within the four crosses, was punishable by a pecuniary fine of £16; if within the town, £32; if within the court or outward wall of the church, £48; if within the church £96; if within the doors of the choir, £144, and penance as for sacrilege; "but if any one, hurried by the spirit of the devil, should presume to seize him who should seat himself in the stone chair beside the altar, called the 'frid-stool,' or even at the window of the holy relics behind the altar—for such flagitious offence no pecuniary atonement should suffice, but he should be called in English *botolos*—(*i. e.*, beyond the reach of pardon)."

Mr. W., pursuing the history of Wilfrid's church, observes:—

What were the degree and nature of the living, does not appear; but it was probably served by a member of the monastery till about the year 821, when the devastations of the Danes rendered it untenable. In the time of Thomas the First, Archbishop York, a secular priest named Eillan was charged with the cure of Hexham. Soon after, the same Archbishop Thomas granted it to one Richard de Maton, a canon of Beverley, and appropriated it, along with Holm, to a prebendal stall in the cathedral church of York; and under this Maton, Eillan (son of Eillan just now mentioned,) served the cure with a stipend out of the revenue arising from the church.

About 1113, the second Thomas, Archbishop of York, purchased the freedom of the church out of the hands of De Maton. But even after this, and when he had placed regular canons in the abbey, Eillan continued to serve the cure—the canons allowing him one caracute of land [104 acres] and a manse in Hexham, and six bovats of land [78 acres] in Eilnewic, (very probably Anick).

On the death of the first Prior, Aschtill, March 17th, 1130, Eillan restored into the hands of the second Prior, Richard de Bisset, the lands and revenues he enjoyed of the church; and the cure of the parish returned to the abbey, where it continued to the dissolution, when the abbey was invested in the Crown.

Queen Elizabeth gave it to Sir Christopher Hatton, reserving a certain salary out of the fee-farm rents for the curate—a poorer provision than that which was supposed to disgrace the church in the time of Eillan. Sir Christopher sold it to the Forsters—who gave it to the Fenwicks—who afterwards purchased the regality or manor of Hexham from the Crown, and so became both lords of the manor and impropriators.

According to tradition, when the parish-church of St. Mary's began to decay and grow out of repair, the abbey-church being a noble and more beautiful structure, it was agreed upon between the impropriator and the parishioners, to let the parish church go to ruin, and to keep in repair the abbey-church, and make it the parish-church; and that the impropriator should repair the choir, and that the parishioners should repair the steeple, the north and south quarters, and all the other parts of the said abbey-church, which accordingly they have repaired time out mind. It does not appear when St. Mary's ceased to be used as the parish church: we should conjecture about the beginning of the seventeenth century.

The choir of the abbey-church is fitted up as the present parish-church.

The living is a curacy, the great and smaller tithes being impropriate: the impropriator is the patron. The incumbent of the chapelry of Whitley is of the same degree, and under the same patronage. In the year 1623, the Right Worshipful Company of Mercers in London purchased the corn-tithes formerly belonging to the abbey, but not within the parish of Hexham, for the maintenance of a lecture. The certified value of Hexham curacy, with Whitley, is £13 6s. 8d. The living was augmented in 1759.

We now come to a description of the existing church; in the course of which, Mr. Wright again takes occasion to express his indignation at the barbarities to which it has been subjected. Some changes, we understand, have taken place, since his book was written. He says:—

The cathedral of Hagustald, the abbey-church of Hextildesham, or the parish-church of Hexham, as this edifice, at different periods, has been designated, stands in a naturally imposing situation, which advantage is entirely lost by a crowd of mean buildings, huddled together without design, and raised against the venerable walls, with no apparent purpose but their degradation. Not only the antiquary and the man of taste, but even the vulgar, point out this nuisance, and condemn the sordid spirit which, possessing the power, appears to want the will to save what all eyes have revered, and,

Like the base Judean, throws a pearl away,
Richer than all his tribe.

A modern seat, the property of T. R. Beaumont, Esq., built on the site of the ancient monastery, and retaining the title of "The Abbey," is separated on the west side by a space once occupied as the cloisters, a few remains of which still adorn the wall opposed to the church. On this side, the church has been preserved from degradation and defilement; and if the present abbey answered no other good end, it merits honourable mention even on this account.

The "Old School," a singular building, of great antiquity and uncertain use, is attached to the east end of the church, standing transversely to the larger building, and is in length rather more than equal to the breadth of the choir against which it is built.

Beyond the old school, and further to the east, is one side of the market-place, composed of mean buildings, obscuring the view. The churchyard lies on the north side. It is extremely small, and surrounded with houses in the usual taste.

Notwithstanding all these disadvantages, there is sufficient of the venerable and magnificent to demand the (not unmingled) admiration of the stranger. The approach from Gilligate is by a remarkably fine Saxon archway, of great antiquity, (a noble specimen of the original grandeur of the monastery,) and from the market-place by a small modern gate.

The abbey-church is in the form of a Greek cross. In the centre is a square tower, nearly 90 feet high, which, in connection with the building, appears low and heavy. The transept is in length 156 feet: the length of the choir is upwards of 70 feet: the nave has ceased to be—the loss of which is a serious injury to the appearance of the church. The roof, formerly covered with lead, is now slated; and this covering, on the top of the little steeple, which rises eleven feet higher than the centre tower, appears very heavy. The grand entrance of course perished with the nave. There is a small private entrance from the abbey, in the west wall of the south transept, and another into the south aisle of the choir; a third door is opened through the old school; but the general entrance is from the north. This door is modern, and in wretched taste; but it seems we owe it to the charity of the Mercers' Company in London, who have been great benefactors to the church, and their good wishes, as well as good services, merit our gratitude.

The north door opens at once into the transept, and the eye is astonished and delighted with the appearance that presents itself. One lofty aisle, open on all sides, grand in its pristine nakedness, pleasing in its simplicity, and astonishing in the magnitude of its proportions and the unity of its parts. At equal distances from the centre, four light

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and lofty arches spring from as many masses of tall clustered columns supporting the tower, and opening into each division of the edifice.

The west side is one wall, pierced however into galleries, and lighted by many lancets. At the north end is the wood-work of the large door, and above that the gallery is continued beneath a long range of pointed windows. With this, the south end corresponds, excepting that the place of the gallery is supplied by a huge balcony, and a heavy flight of steps, connected with the spiral stairs that lead to the gallery of the choir, to the belfry, and to the battlements of the tower. Beneath this balcony is the cemetery of the respected ancestors of the Blackett family.

On the east side of the transept, a range of columns and arches forms a side aisle, in which are several ancient monuments; and its wall is fretted into cloister-work by small pilasters, alternately single and double, branching into tabernacle-work above. Most of these ornaments are now destroyed, and on the west side of the transept scarcely a vestige remains.

In the side-aisle of the north transept a kind of cockloft of wood, with a ricketty staircase, is crammed into a corner of the building, and used as the vestry. A wooden screen is raised against the side-aisle of the south transept, which appears to have been employed in a similar manner. In this aisle are one or two tombs of modern slate, and its floor is covered with rubbish.

The remainder of the east wall is composed of the screen which divides the choir from the transept. This is threefold, to correspond with the aisles which compose the choir. The screen of the side-aisles consists merely of the large doors which open to them, and of tables which contain a list of benefactions to the poor. The screen of the centre aisle is ancient, composed of wood, carved and painted. It is in two parts—the lower divided by the carved work into five arches, the centre being the entrance into the choir. The other four are elaborately painted to represent Gothic lights of intricate composition. Beneath these supposed windows are numerous niches, in each of which is placed a figure in pontificals, with the ensigns of ecclesiastical supremacy. On the remainder of this curious screen, above the arches, is an antique painting, commonly called "Death's Dance."

Against the west wall of the transept, almost opposite the entrance to the choir, is the litany-desk, now used for burials, &c. In the panels of its extended front are figures similar, but inferior in execution, to those on the screen.

Within the screen is the choir—that part of the building now dedicated to the parish-church. This may be considered as a distinct edifice, and its description is the most material part of our subject. It consists of one aisle divided into three, each being distinct and yet united, supposed in reference to the Holy Trinity. The length of the choir we previously stated, when it was necessary to view it in connection with the other parts of the building. The breadth of the centre aisle is 27 feet, and of the side aisles nearly 12 feet. The height of the centre aisle is immense, and the roof is supported by huge blocks of oak forming low sharp-pointed arches without ornament. The roofs of the side aisles are low, formed of stone, by a series of intersecting arches springing from the columns which divide the choir.

The walls of the side aisles are at least 10 feet thick, as may be seen where they are pierced from a door on the south side. The walls of the chancel or centre aisle are composed of a grand series of intercolumniations, shaft over shaft, and arch over arch. The lowest series is composed of six thickly-clustered columns, forming an equal number of fine pointed arches, rather more than one-third of the whole height of the choir. The second or middle series consists of six short, heavy, massy, clustered columns, and as many semicircular arches, each divided into two pointed or lancet lights, by a single shaft or mullion in the centre. At present the effect of this series is lost; for, by the want of the drapery which has adorned the church, these articles are left entirely open, and the unintended intersection of the rude round arch on one side takes away the harmony and keeping of the whole. The last and highest series is formed of pointed arches in a unique taste, without columns, consisting of one large between two smaller pointed arches, formed and divided by solid masonry. Thus each of the three series is distinguished:—in the first are six arches: in the second, twelve; and in the third, eighteen. This last series is doubly effective; for, being above the exterior roof of the side aisles, light is admitted from without, which of course increases the beauty as well as the utility of the series. There are six inferior lights in the walls of the side aisles, and the choir is still farther lighted by the great east window, which occupies nearly half that end of the centre aisle. The window is singular in this, that it is, or appears to be, broader at the spring of the arch than at the base of the columns. It is likewise distinguished by that ornament commonly called the witches' wheel. It is divided by "slender shafts of shapely stone," as usual; but the great ornament of such buildings, and what ought particularly to distinguish them—painted glass—is totally wanting. That beautiful and appropriate medium, through which, in former ages,

The silver light, so pale and faint,
Shewed many a prophet, and many a saint,
Whose image on the glass was dyed:—
Full in the midst, his cross of red
Triumphant Michael brandished,
And trampled the apostate's pride.
The moon-beam kissed the holy pane,
And threw on the pavement a bloody stain.

Imagine the cross of St. Andrew in the place of the figure of the archangel, and you will be delighted with an almost living picture of this beautiful *Oriel* as it was, and as it ought to be, and at once feel and lament the mutilated state in which it is. Beneath this window is the altar, once a very beautiful specimen of its peculiar style of architecture, as we are assured by many who remember it, before the present frontispiece was raised against it. Imagine, reader, this appropriate altar with its niches and its tabernacle work, its mimic spires, and minarets, and pinnacles, its foliations and its tracery, and then behold its present appearance—a Grecian front, of wood, painted, gilded, carved into columns, pilasters, base, and projecting pediment—all of which would be beautiful in their proper place, but screening as it does what would be appropriate, and representing as it does what is the very reverse, we hold up our hands in wonder at the taste which could suggest such an *improvement*, and without a quibble pronounce this *Grecian* front the most *Gothic* part of the edifice. The date of the alteration is preserved—1798, G. Busby, Minister.

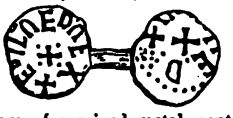
From this altar we turn with much pleasure to the opposite end of the choir. In former times—and, indeed, (judging by the accurate views in the *Beauties of England, &c.*, vol. 12.,) we may say, very lately—the upper part of the great arch, which opens from the transept to the choir, was open above the screen. *Now*, however, it is walled up to the very point of the arch, and this improvement, so essential to the comfort of the congregation, is made highly ornamental; for it harmonizes with the general character of the church. Above the entrance is the organ-loft, a large gallery extending across the aisle, and now made to contain the vocal as well as the instrumental music, the organ, and the singers. The front of this gallery is ancient, divided into compartments, each containing a full-length figure, like those on the lower part of the screen and on the front of the litany-desk. "The portraitures of our blessed Lord, and his apostles, and the Virgin Mary, are painted on the panels."

Our author, Mr. Wright, lingers over the "improvement" alluded to in the last paragraph which we have quoted, and also over the furniture of the choir—a "beautiful gallery of carved oak," "stalls highly ornamented with tabernacle-work," and "the beautiful oratory or shrine," near to which is "the celebrated Freed Stool" of the "Sanctuary." But he hastens with disgust from the "inelegant pews and galleries" with which the hand of modern *improvement* has disgraced our age, and passes on to describe the ancient monuments, and other interesting relics, with which the church abounds. Speaking of "the curious ring of bells, which, from their names and inscriptions, have been noticed by all travellers, yet never fully described," he gives the following translation of the inscriptions:—

1. Even at our earliest sound,
   The light of God is spread around.
2. At the echo of my voice,
   Ocean, earth, and air rejoice.
3. Blend thy mellow tones with mine,
   Silver voice of Catherine.
4. Till Time on Ruin's lap shall nod,
   John shall sound the praise of God.
5. With John in heavenly harmony,
   Andrew, pour thy melody.
6. Be mine to chant Jehovah's fame,
   While Maria is my name.

These six bells were melted down many years ago, and recast into eight.

In the year 1833, (ten years subsequent to the publication of Mr. Wright's *History of Hexham*,) a bronze vessel was found by the sexton, when digging an unusually deep grave in the churchyard; and in this vessel there were upwards of 8,000 Saxon *stycas*—a species of money coined in Northumbria only. Amongst them were a few of Heardulf, about 2,000 of Eanred, 2,000 of Ethelred (one of which is figured in the margin), 100 of Redulf, 100 of Archbishop Eanbald, 800 of Archbishop Vigmund, and 3,000 which were disposed of without examination.



They are of a mixed metal, containing, in 100 parts, from 60 to 70 of copper, 20 to 25 of zinc, 6 to 11 of silver, with some small portions occasionally of gold, lead, and tin. Ethelred, King of Northumberland, reigned from 840 to 848. The vessel, and a large portion of its contents, were placed, we believe, in the British Museum, by the liberality of Mr. Beaumont, the lord of the manor; and an elaborate description of the coins was published by Mr. Adamson, of Newcastle, in the *Transactions* of the Society of Antiquaries, London.

Roman as well as Saxon remains have been found in and around the abbey-church of Hexham; but Mr. Wright leans to the belief that the town is of British origin, and that its claim to "an antiquity coeval with the Roman government of Northumberland" does not stand upon a foundation "too firm to be shaken."

Having closed our long preface, we now proceed to report the sayings and doings of the adjourned meeting of Tuesday last, held in the ancient Moot Hall, at four o'clock in the afternoon. There were present on this occasion—J. C. Jobling, Esq., of

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Newton Hall, Chairman of the Northumberland Quarter Sessions; Edward Glynn, Esq., Deputy Bailiff of the Manor; Rev. William Airey, perpetual curate, and Rev. Charles Lee, afternoon lecturer; William Bell, Esq., of the Abbey; George Lee, Esq., of Threepwood; John Adamson, Esq., of Newcastle; Rev. Christopher Bird, sen. and jun.; Dr. Gill, of Hexham; and Nicholas Leadbitter, Philip Jefferson, Robert Stokoe, James Kirsopp, Smith Stobart, John Stokoe, William Kirsopp, Joseph Crawford, Jasper Gibson, Edward Dodd, John Pearson, William Stokoe, and Edward Campion, Esqrs.

Mr. Glynn took the chair, but merely (he said) to open the business of the day. When a requisition was addressed to him, as the representative of the Bailiff of the Manor, to call a meeting of the ratepayers and inhabitants of Hexham, to promote the restoration of the Abbey Church, he complied with great pleasure; and a meeting was held accordingly, at which certain resolutions were passed, and a determination formed to hold a further meeting on a larger and more extended scale, comprehending the inhabitants, not of Hexham alone, but those of the whole county, who felt an interest in the contemplated object. That meeting was now assembled, and he had great satisfaction in initiating the proceedings. He took a deep and a lively interest in the subject which had brought them together, and he felt assured that his own feelings would find a response in the bosom of every one of his countrymen present. It afforded him great satisfaction to learn that a gentleman of great personal worth andpu blic influence, and, though not an inhabitant of Hexham, yet closely connected with it by the ties of good fellowship and of official station, had kindly consented to take the chair, and give to the proceedings which which were about to take place the great sanction and weight which his name must command. (Applause.) To make way for that gentleman, he most gladly vacated the chair.

Mr. Jobling (on the motion of the Rev. Charles Lee, seconded by Mr. James Kirsopp, of the Spital), now took the seat resigned by Mr. Glynn, amidst much applause, and said:—He had great pleasure in acceding to the wishes of the Committee and of the meeting, that he should preside over the present proceedings. He felt as warmly interested as any inhabitant of Hexham in the proposed restoration of the Abbey Church to its pristine glory. (Applause.) The meeting of the 3rd inst. was confined to the parish of Hexham, but an appeal was now made to the county at large—and indeed, not to Northumberland alone, but to the whole of the northern counties of England—in aid of this noble undertaking; and he had no doubt that when the subject was fairly and fully brought before the public, every gentleman—aye, and every yeoman too—would be most ready to assist the Committee with the means of carrying out their excellent design. (Applause.) As a proof that gentlemen at a distance were anxious to advance the object now under consideration, he might name the receipt of a letter from the Venerable Archdeacon Thorp, intimating his intention of subscribing the sum of ten guineas. (Applause.) This and other letters would be laid before the meeting, and several resolutions, he understood, would be submitted for discussion. He would call upon the Secretaries to read the letters and the Committee's Report.

Mr. John Stokoe read the resolutions of the previous meeting—a letter from the Bishop of Durham, expressive of his regret that he could not preside at this meeting, but requesting that his name might be entered for a subscription of £50—a letter from the Rev. John Hodgson, of Hartburn, near Morpeth, (author of the *History of Northumberland*,) offering his services on the Committee—and also a friendly letter from John Grey, Esq., of Dilston, written from the South of England.

Mr. Joseph Crawford, the other Hon. Secretary, read the Report of the Committee, which was as follows:—

The Committee appointed at the public meeting held in the Moot Hall at Hexham on Thursday the 3d inst., for the purpose of taking measures for restoring the Abbey Church at Hexham, have to report to this meeting the proceedings they have taken, in pursuance of their instructions.

The first object of the Committee was to ascertain the present state of the building at the east end of the Abbey Church, to which their attention was more particularly directed. The Committee were fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. R. W. Billings, a gentleman whose attention for some years past has been devoted to the study and illustration of the best specimens of Gothic architecture, as exemplified in the cathedral churches of this country, and whose illustrations of the cathedral churches of Carlisle and Durham are well known to the public. The result of his investigation will be laid before the meeting in a separate report; and from the spirited etchings by which it is accompanied, the meeting will be enabled to judge, not only of the present state of the building, but what it has been in its original state, *and what it may be again*, should we fortunately be enabled to carry out the object we have in view.

The subscription set on foot has been actively prosecuted; and the Committee have much satisfaction in stating, that, with the addition of the handsome donations of two or three gentlemen in the neighbourhood, the sum of £350 was subscribed by the inhabitants of Hexham in the space of two days.

The Committee must here be permitted to acknowledge the debt of gratitude which they owe to our venerable and much respected Diocesan, the Bishop of Durham, who, with that princely munificence which has distinguished all his acts, public and private, added his name to the subscription-list for the sum of £50, and accompanied his donation by an expression of his kind interest in their proceedings, which enhanced the value of his gift. (Applause.)

The Committee have also forwarded to His Grace the Duke of Northumberland a statement of the proceedings of the last meeting, soliciting his powerful assistance; and from the generosity with which His Grace has uniformly interested himself in the welfare and advancement of the country, they are encouraged to hope for a favourable reply.

They have also forwarded an application to Mr. Beaumont, the Lord of the Manor of Hexham, whose liberal patronage of all public improvements is well known to the inhabitants of this district; and though, from that gentleman's absence abroad, they are not yet in possession of his answer, they have every reason to expect that he will subscribe handsomely to the undertaking.

The Committee thought it better to delay applying to any one at a distance till the etchings alluded to were completed; and now that they are, the Committee have no doubt that there are many parties who only need to be applied to, to afford their valuable and effective support to the objects of the meeting.

It may not be improper to state to the meeting, for the information of those who are not residing on the spot, the circumstances which give rise to the present exertions, and which render the appeal now made to the public a matter of such urgent and pressing necessity.

For many years past the state of the Abbey Church had been a subject of reproach to the inhabitants of this town, and a subject of regret to contemporaneous writers, who did not hesitate to point out and to denounce the bad taste which could allow this noble building to be deformed by masses of rubbish, and behold its sacred precincts appropriated to the vilest of purposes, without an effort to rescue it from such degradation.

But, as frequently happens in this country, where patient endurance seems to form a prominent feature in the national character, these grievances, though admitted by all, seemed as far as ever from being redressed; the encroachments which the supineness or the indifference of our ancestors had permitted to be made upon the privileges, and even the decencies, of the church, were allowed to remain; and there seemed little prospect that the church would ever be freed from the incumbrances which disgraced it.

It fortunately happened, however, that the hand of time accomplished what the literary labours of the antiquary, and the oft-repeated wishes of the inhabitants of the town, had failed to do; and those buildings which had outlived the shock of public opinion for more than a century, yielded at last to the slower, though more certain, influence of age.

Two of the houses which had so long encumbered and disgraced the east front of the Abbey Church, becoming ruinous and uninhabitable, were pulled down by their proprietors for the purpose of being rebuilt, and the walls of the venerable building, after a seclusion of so many years, once more saw the light of day.

It was then discovered that the building at the east end of the choir, known as the "Ladye Chapel" in many of our ancient cathedral churches, had been adorned by five windows looking towards the market-place. When the houses in question were built, these windows were walled up and covered with plaster, and the houses then built up against them, the east front of the church being made to form the back wall of the houses, and the timber of the roof and floors being actually let into and supported by the wall of the church!

It was ascertained by inquiry, that it was the intention of the proprietors of these houses, not only to rebuild them, but to add an additional story to their height, by which, not only would the "Ladye Chapel" be again concealed, but the beautiful east window of the Abbey Church, which forms such a prominent feature in the appearance of the town, as viewed from the market-place, be entirely hidden.

The Committee therefore directed themselves to procure the suspension of these operations, and made an arrangement with the builder, to allow the Committee an opportunity of negotiating with the proprietors before he proceeded with the new buildings.

This negotiation, unfortunately, has not been attended with the success which could have been wished, the owners of the southern of these sites having formed an estimate of its value which puts it beyond the reach of the Committee. The sum of £400 has been offered for it without success; and the Committee estimate, that to purchase it at the price, and subject to the conditions, which the vendors attach to it, would not cost less than £470, being at the rate of £5 per square yard—a price which has never been allowed, even in Newcastle, for sites in the most favourable situations.

The Committee are happy in stating that they have entered into a contract with the owner of the house and shop to the south of the sites in question for the sum of £350, and that the proprietor of the house and shop to the north of these sites has handsomely placed it at the

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disposal of the Committee for the sum of £——, being the price it cost him a short time ago. (Applause.) From the owners of the remaining site they have not yet received a reply to their proposal, but the character and respectability of the parties lead the Committee to hope that they will be able to treat with them on fair and honourable terms.

It will be seen, however, from the above statement, that the expense of opening out and restoring the building will amount to a larger sum than was anticipated. This is occasioned by the circumstance that an additional house and shop will be removed, which were not contemplated in the resolutions of the last meeting, but which now appear to be absolutely necessary to give effect to the proposed improvement.

In order to throw open, completely, the front and one end of the Ladye Chapel, it would be necessary to purchase the sites of both the houses which have been pulled down, and also to purchase and remove two other houses. This, by removing the screen of houses, would throw open the church to the market-place, and allow the view to extend along the whole of the choir to the transept.

The Committee have the most sanguine hope that they may be enabled to carry out the intention they originally formed; and they trust that not only the inhabitants of this county, but of many other parts of England, will assist in the execution of this good work. They consider this not merely as a local improvement. They take their stand *on far higher grounds*. They consider the restoration of a monument of antiquity *such as this* to be a great national object; for when we reflect that in this venerable pile, mutilated and degraded as it is, we behold the successor of the third Christian church founded in this northern portion of the island—a Bishopric as ancient as that of York, and once scarcely inferior in dignity and splendour—the adopted of royalty, and the favoured seat of the learning and piety of earlier ages—the sepulchre of the great and the good of past centuries—a building which kings and princes, prelates and noblemen, delighted to adorn—and, lastly, when we behold in it the temple reared for the worship of the Divine Being by the devout spirit and the princely munificence of our ancestors, we must pronounce that it has claims upon the general community, *far above those of local situation*.

Independent altogether of these considerations, the beauty and striking singularity of the building, as a work of art, must at once enlist the sympathies of the man of taste, and provoke an effort to save this emanation of the genius of bygone days from the destruction with which it is menaced. The piety and the good taste which reared this building 600 years ago, and bequeathed to us a monument of their influence, splendid even in its desolation, were confined to no one county, unbounded by the artificial limits of the geographer, uninfluenced and unfettered by local situation or connection, but were the spontaneous effusion of a whole people actuated by the highest and holiest feelings, and directed by the most masterly skill.

And shall we suppose that these feelings are now extinct, and that the polished and enlightened denizens of the nineteenth century will calmly surrender to destruction the legacies bequeathed to them by the barbarous and unlearned of the twelfth? The Committee feel it an insult to suppose so, and appeal with confidence to their munificence and taste for a reply. (Applause.)

Mr. Stokoe read a letter from Mr. Billings, the gentleman alluded to in the Committee's Report. It was as follows:—

Gentlemen,—Having completed the etchings of the Abbey Church, which the Committee for the restoration had employed me to pen, I beg to subjoin a few remarks upon the building of the Ladye Chapel, being the results of researches in making the drawings.

The first etching represents the church in its present state; and the second, the appearance it would have when restored to its original condition; the whole of the latter being arranged from absolute remains of the chapel, excepting the pinnacles surmounting the buttresses, the bases of which are clearly discernible from the roof.

From what I have observed, it appears that the Ladye Chapel was built shortly after the church itself, and in the same style of architecture, with lancet windows of the same character as those of the choir immediately adjoining. The date of this would be about 1250.

These windows were removed at a subsequent period (about 1500), and replaced by larger windows, in the style known by the term perpendicular. At this period the buttresses at the east end were considerably enlarged, in order, as I suppose, to resist an inclination of the east wall to fall outwards, in consequence of the internal pressure of the roof, from its having no tie beams. At any rate, this is the case at present, if we except a long thin strip of wood tacked to the rafters, but which is of little or no use. The wall is now from five to seven inches out of the perpendicular.

To correct this defect, by adding tie-beams and king-posts to the roof, or reconstructing it altogether, will require the first attention of the restorers after the purchase of the buildings surrounding the chapel. The corbels upon which the timbers of the old roof rested, still remain; and the reconstruction of a simply ornamental roof, in character with the chapel, would be a matter of little moment, as the value of the timber in the floor of the school-room, which would have to be removed, will materially lessen the cost.

It may not be amiss to state, that the expense of restoring the exterior of the Ladye Chapel will be materially affected by the state of the two windows still uncovered, but, from the nearly perfect state of those already opened, we may conjecture favourably of the remainder.

I have not considered it as coming, in any shape, within the province of the present communication, to make any observations on the church generally, which presents many characteristics architectural, that may render it, in several respects, perfectly unique, and make Hexham Abbey an important link in the chain of the history of British architecture, commonly, but unjustly, called Gothic—a term far more appropriate for those who have mutilated and disfigured this noble work of the piety and skill of our ancestors. And having gone to the extent of my commission, I beg to add my best wishes towards the success of the undertaking, and my mite of one guinea towards it.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

R. W. Billings.

The Rev. Christopher Bird rose to propose the first resolution, (which, with those that followed, will be found in our advertising columns). It was hardly necessary, he thought, that he should say anything in support of the object of the meeting, after the excellent, and, in many passages, very eloquent Report, which had just been read. He had no need to make any appeal, to awaken the feelings of the county, when he saw around him such convincing proofs of the zeal already called into active existence. (Applause.) If encouragement were wanting, it might be taken from the fact that Mr. Jobling was this day their Chairman—a gentleman who had led the way to success on many occasions of great difficulty, and who could not fail to lead them onward to a triumphant issue, in so hopeful an undertaking as the present. (Applause.) There was no division—no difference of opinion—to interfere with their wishes. Gentlemen of widely opposite views, both in politics and in religion, were cordially united on this interesting occasion. (Applause.) It was refreshing to see this union of men of all sects and parties, in promotion of a praiseworthy object; and he was sure that whenever they met on common ground, they would always separate with feelings towards each other of increased respect and regard. (Applause.) He was always glad of such pleasing contrasts to the strife and turmoil in which they were sometimes involved, and this feeling, he was confident, was entertained by those to whom he was opposed on many most important questions. There was a great deal of excellence and soundness of heart in Englishmen, which would not permit them to stand aloof, and hold back from a free and friendly co-operation, whenever they could co-operate without a compromise of political or religious integrity. (Applause.) With regard to their prospects, the able Report of the Committee led them to indulge the most favourable anticipations. There was only one passage in the Report to which he felt any objection—and that was towards the close, where it spoke of our "barbarous and unlearned" ancestors of the twelfth century. Unlearned they could not be. The very structure now under consideration—the Abbey Church of Hexham—exhibited an intimate acquaintance with mathematical——[Here some gentleman observed, that the words "barbarous and unlearned" must not be taken literally—they were intended as a sarcasm on those who applied such epithets to an age which had given birth to so many noble works of art.] Mr. Bird begged pardon, and after urging upon every one the importance of individual exertions for the increase of the number of subscribers, concluded by moving the first resolution.

Mr. G. F. Wilbraham seconded the motion, and it was carried *nem. con.*, (as were all that followed.)

Mr. James Kirsopp moved the second resolution. If this undertaking were suffered to fall to the ground, the present generation would have just reason to find fault with the inhabitants of the North of England, for their want of taste, and they would deservedly receive the scorn and contempt of posterity. (Applause.) He was grieved to think that the Committee had experienced some difficulty with the owners of a portion of the obnoxious property. He did anticipate that they would have been met in a spirit of liberality, and with a desire to forward, rather than to retard, so great an improvement. It was much to be deplored that any obstacles should have been thrown in the way, where assistance might have been expected; and he trusted that, on mature reflection, the parties would be induced to alter their determination, and that the Committee would be enabled to accomplish the noble object which they had in view. (Applause.)

Mr. Glynn seconded the resolution. He viewed this project apart from any feeling which he might have as an inhabitant of Hexham, or, indeed, of the county of Northumberland. He considered the cause in which they were engaged to be one of considerable national importance; and however some might say, that the people of Hexham had no right to call upon the nation to restore their parish-church, he would still maintain that they had a valid title to the liberality of their countrymen, the venerable structure in question having claims of a much higher order than those of a mere parish-church. The Committee had told the meeting, in the Report read by Mr.

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Crawford, that the Abbey Church of Hexham presented architectural features of singular interest, distinguishing it from almost any other cathedral. The cathedrals of York and Durham possessed beauties in themselves, apparent to the eye of every man of taste; but the church at Hexham, although not on so grand a scale, nor so obviously beautiful to the uninitiated beholder, had peculiar charms to those who were conversant with the history and science of architecture. It was one of the few remaining specimens of the lancet or perpendicular-Gothic style of architecture, and its preservation, he repeated, was an object, not simply of local, but of national importance. Its connection, also, with many important events in the early history of this country, gave it an additional claim on the consideration of Englishmen. The church of Hexham was founded at a very remote period, and here was established the first bishopric in the Saxon kingdom of Northumberland. The bones of the Saxon kings sepultured within the walls of the church, and the remains of Saxon skill and ingenuity which it presented to the eye at this very day, invested it with an irresistible claim upon the fostering protection of every man of correct and liberal feeling; and when the inhabitants of Hexham had come forward themselves, in the first instance, and made a handsome subscription, had, in his opinion, established a strong claim to co-operation, and could justly and gracefully appeal to their fellow-countrymen for assistance in so praiseworthy and public-spirited an undertaking. (Applause.) If any of his remarks were overstrained, he hoped to be excused; but he was persuaded that every gentleman present felt as warmly upon the subject as himself, and that the sentiments which he had expressed would find an echo in every bosom. (Applause.) The country, he was confident, would come forward in a right and proper spirit, and rescue this fine specimen of early English architecture from impending destruction. (Applause.)

Mr. JASPER GIBSON moved the third resolution, and it was seconded by Dr. GILL, who complimented Mr. Glynn on the eloquence and propriety of his observations.

The Rev. CHRISTOPHER BIRD moved the fourth resolution. Seconded by Mr. JOHN STOKOE.

Mr. ROBERT STOKOE moved the fifth resolution. When he was a boy, it was a common saying that Hexham had three "lions"—the Church, the Abbey, and Michael Bell. (Great laughter.) The Abbey, however, was burnt down, and away went one of the Hexham lions. Michael Bell departed to his final rest, and the second lion was lost. The Church was the only one that remained, and the town, therefore, was the more bound to be careful of its preservation. He hoped to see it restored to its pristine grandeur. Then, a stigma which had long attached to the town would be removed, for Hexham had justly been reproached by historians on the subject of its Abbey Church. Mackenzie and Dent, in their *History of Northumberland*, (vol. ii., p. 282,) observed:—

> The abbey-church, though standing in a fine commanding situation, is shamefully concealed and disfigured by a crowd of wretched buildings. Even pigsties and other nasty erections are set up against the walls of this noble and ancient pile. Not only strangers, but all the inhabitants possessed of any taste or spirit, have long expressed their indignation at the sordid spirit that can view with indifference the degradation and defilement of such a venerable structure.

And Mr. Wright, in his *History of Hexham*, remarked, that the church "stood in a naturally imposing situation, which advantage was entirely lost by a crowd of buildings, huddled together without design, and raised against the venerable walls, with no apparent purpose but their degradation." (Hear, hear.) This disgrace, he hoped, would soon be wiped away, by the restoration of the church to its former magnificence.

Mr. PHILIP JEFFERSON seconded the motion.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Committee, on the motion of Mr. LANGHORNE, seconded by Mr. J. KIRSOPP; and the resolutions of the meeting were ordered to be advertised, a motion to that effect having been moved by Mr. WILLIAM KIRSOPP, and seconded by the Rev. CHRISTOPHER BIRD, jun.

The Rev. W. AIREY said, it might be wondered why he had taken no part in the proceedings of the day, and it might be thought that he was lukewarm in the matter. He had refrained, however, from no such feeling. When he could see his way clear, no man would more warmly support the restoration of the Abbey Church. But he wished to know how they stood, before he committed himself too far. If they simply succeeded in sweeping away the buildings which concealed the east front—if they found themselves unable to restore the front which they exposed to view—in what position would they stand? How, for instance, would they justify themselves with the Bishop of Durham, if his liberal donation were merely contributory to the removal of the erections which obscured the church? And it would take £1,000 to effect this object alone. He was very anxious that the contemplated improvement should be carried out, but he wished to know the whole that could be accomplished, before anything was done. He, as an inhabitant of Hexham, would be ready to subscribe merely to sweep away the unsightly buildings from the front of the church, but they could not justly accept the subscriptions of non-resident gentlemen for so imperfect an improvement. He begged his friends to look the thing boldly in the face, and measure the difficulties of the undertaking, before proceeding too far. He could assure them he was far from wishing to discourage them in their public-spirited efforts to restore the church; and if he saw the project to be practicable, he would join hand and heart in the good work which they had begun. (Applause.)

The Rev. C. BIRD observed, that no one, in the least acquainted with the character of the respected clergyman of Hexham, would suspect him of motives different to those which he expressed. A more candid, open-hearted man than Mr. Airey, did not exist. (Applause.) But while he did full justice to that gentleman's sincerity, and was confident of his good wishes to the present undertaking, he could not share in his apprehensions, or attach much weight to his fears. There was a spirit abroad in this county, and in the country, which would accomplish all that the man of cultivated taste could desire. (Applause.) All that was requisite was a proper appeal to that public spirit. He had no doubt of the result. Let them, then, go forward with prudence, but also with a rational confidence. He would not hesitate to pull down the houses, immediately that they could be purchased. As one of the non-resident subscribers, he was perfectly willing that his subscription should be devoted to this first step in the work of improvement: he would risk his money with perfect cheerfulness. (Applause.) Of course they could not be certain of raising all the funds which might be necessary. They were trying an experiment which he believed would fully succeed; and even if it failed, it would be something to have rescued themselves from the imputation of acquiescing in the present degraded and disgraceful condition of the Abbey Church. (Applause.)

Mr. SMITH STOBART had certainly been surprised and grieved that his worthy and reverend friend, Mr. Airey, had not come forward to move or second a resolution; for there was not a more kind or liberal man in the whole parish. (Applause.) He was glad now to learn, that Mr. Airey's heart was with them, though his head was not fully convinced of the prudence of the course which they were pursuing. For himself, he saw no obstacles in the way of complete success. They had raised £500. Mr. Beaumont, the generous Lord of the Manor, would give another £500. (Laughter.) The Queen would give them £100. (Renewed laughter.) They would raise abundant funds, he had not the least doubt.

The Rev. CHARLES LEE, who was inclined to share in the views of Mr. Airey, would nevertheless put his name down for £30. (Applause.)

Mr. JOSEPH RIDLEY addressed the meeting. He, it appeared, was placed in a situation the opposite of that of Mr. Airey. The latter gentleman "could not see his way clear:" Mr. Ridley saw rather further than the rest of the meeting. He wished to know whether, if the funds were not sufficient to restore the church, the deficiency would be raised by a church-rate, (cries of "No, no!") and whether, when the restoration was effected, the "Ladye Chapel" would be sustained by a rate. He would move a resolution declaring the determination of the meeting not to resort to a rate, but to rely solely on the voluntary principle. (Cries of "No, no," "It is quite uncalled for," &c.)

Mr. JAMES KIRSOPP said, that no one could be more decidedly opposed to church-rates than himself, but, so far as he knew the feelings of the gentlemen with whom he was acting, there was not the remotest intention of falling back upon a church-rate to make up any deficiency. In fact, it could not be done.

Mr. AIREY was ready to pledge himself that nothing of the kind should be attempted: he would rather leave the parish than have it done. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: It could not be done, even if it were wished; and no one ever dreamt of such a thing.

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Mr. J. GREY, of Hexham, was glad of this explanation. He had some fears upon the subject, before he came to this meeting; but he was now satisfied, and would put his name down for £1.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the vote of thanks, and dissolved the meeting.—AUG. 21.

SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Committee of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, was held on Monday last, in the Trinity Hall, (GEORGE STRAKER, Esq., in the chair,) to consider a heavy tax of three silver roubles per last, which some of the London papers had stated that the Russian Government had imposed on shipping at Cronstadt.

The HON. SECRETARY read the statement in the *Shipping Gazette*, in the shape of a letter from Messrs. Booker & Son, of Cronstadt, and said he was happy to find that a great mistake had been committed, either by the writers of the letter, or the press, as a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Russian Company, which had been politely forwarded to him by Mr. Ogden Brown, of Sunderland, would show. He then read the letter, as follows :—

Custom House, London, 12th August, 1841.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., I beg to acquaint you that a mistake has been made in the statement which appeared in the daily and evening papers. It should have been—

"Every vessel trading to St. Petersburg is to be charged three *copecks* silver per last, each voyage.

"Every vodovick, or deck-boat, employed in carrying iron and deals, 50 copecks silver, each voyage."

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Ogden Brown, Esq. THOMAS COPE.

Mr. JOBLING, Mr. ORMSTON, and Mr. DALE stated that letters had also been received in Newcastle, from London, confirming Mr. Brown's communication.

The Society then, of course, resolved to interfere no further, the charge of three copecks being a mere trifle; and the thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Brown, for his polite communication.

Mr. PATTISON, the Manager of the Port of Newcastle Shipping Company, communicated to the meeting the following table of port-charges, in copper roubles, payable since 1832, on British ships at St. Petersburg :—

Lasts.	Lastage.	Passes.	Clearing Passes Cronstadt	Address Money.	Church.	Cronstadt Church.	Cronstadt Expedition.	Company's Agent.	Total Copper Roubles.
30 lasts..	12	60	10	40	15	5	20	6	168
31 to 40	16	60	10	50	20	7	25	6	196
41 to 50	20	60	10	50	25	9	30	10	214
51 to 60	24	60	10	50	30	11	35	12	232
61 to 70	28	60	10	60	35	12	40	14	259
71 to 80	32	60	10	60	40	14	45	16	277
81 to 90	36	60	10	60	45	16	50	18	295
91 to 100	40	60	10	70	50	17	55	20	322
101 to 110	44	60	10	70	55	19	60	22	340
111 to 120	48	60	10	70	60	21	65	24	358
121 to 130	52	60	10	80	65	23	70	26	386
131 to 140	56	60	10	80	70	24	75	28	403
141 to 150	60	60	10	90	75	26	80	30	431
151 to 160	64	60	10	90	80	28	85	32	449
161 to 170	68	60	10	100	85	29	90	34	476
171 to 180	72	60	10	100	90	31	95	36	494
181 to 190	76	60	10	110	95	33	100	38	522
191 to 200	80	60	10	110	100	34	105	40	539

A letter was read from Sir James Duke, to the effect that he had not yet been able to obtain the opinion of the London Shipowners' Society on the Liverpool Registry Book, but would mention the subject again.—The meeting thereupon dissolved.

[We rejoice in the correction of the mistake as to the Russian tax, and are glad to give publicity to it, because it is more than probable that great inconvenience would have ensued from the rumour of so heavy a charge as 5s. per ton having been imposed on shipping at St. Petersburg.—ED. G. O.]

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

[CONCLUDED.]

(T.) STANLEY, EDWARD, Esq., of Dalegarth and Ponsonby Hall, (M.P. for West Cumberland,) descends from a branch of the historically-eminent line of Stanley, located in the north for several centuries, and possesses estates which have descended to him in unbroken succession over a period exceeding 500 years. Mr. Stanley is son of the late George Edward Stanley, Esq., of Ponsonby and Dalegarth, who served the office of Sheriff of Cumberland in 1774, and grandson of Edward Stanley, Esq., by Milfred his wife, daughter of Sir George Fleming, Bart., Lord Bishop of Carlisle. The hon. gentleman, who has sat for the western division of the county of Cummberland since 1832, was born in 1790, and married, 1821, Mary, daughter of William Douglas, Esq., an East Indian Judge.

(T.) THOMPSON, WILLIAM, Esq., (M.P. for Sunderland,) a shipowner, and alderman of London, of which city he filled the civic chair in 1829, and was for several years the representative, is son of James Thompson, Esq., of Kendal. He was born in 1794, and married in 1817, Amelia, daughter of Samuel Homfray, Esq., some time M.P. for Stafford.

(W.) VANE, LORD HARRY GEORGE, (M.P. for South Durham,) third son of the Duke of Cleveland and brother of Lord Darlington, directly descended from the celebrated Sir Harry Vane, of the days of Charles I.

(W.) WATSON, WILLIAM HENRY, Esq., of Wilton Crescent, (M.P. for Kinsale,) is a distinguished barrister of the Northern Circuit. This is his first Parliament. [Mr. Watson is a widower. His wife was a Newcastle lady.]

(W.) WAWN, JOHN TWIZEL, Esq., of West Boldon, (M.P. for South Shields,) a magistrate for the county of Durham, sits for the first time in Parliament.

(W.) WOOD, GEORGE WILLIAM, Esq., of Singleton Lodge, Lancashire, (M.P. for Kendal,) engaged in commercial pursuits at Manchester, is son of the late Rev. William Wood, of Leeds, by Louisa Anne, his wife, daughter of George Oates, Esq., of Newton Hall: was born in 1781, and married, in 1810, Sarah, daughter of Joseph Oates, Esq., of Westwood Hall.

(T.) WORTLEY, Hon. JOHN STEWART, (M.P. for the West Riding of Yorkshire,) the successor of Lord Morpeth in the representation of this important district, is eldest son of Lord Wharncliffe, and great grandson of the Prime Minister Bute: he was born in 1801, and married, in 1825, Georgiana Elizabeth, third daughter of Dudley, Earl of Harrowby. The power and popularity of the house of Wharncliffe, in Yorkshire, are very considerable.

(W.) WRIGHTSON, WW. BATTIE, Esq., of Cusworth, Yorkshire, (M.P. for Northallerton,) barrister-at-law, acting as one of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of the Irish poor. He is the eldest son of Wm. Wrightson, Esq., of Cusworth, sometime M.P. for Aylesbury, by Henrietta, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Richard Heber, Esq., of Marton: was born in 1789, and married, in 1821, Georgiana, daughter of Freeman Thomas, Esq., of Ratton, in Sussex.

Mr. Andrew Davidson, late Assistant Clerk to the Justices of Newcastle, was appointed Master of the Gateshead Fell Public School, on Thursday last, Aug. 19.

Mr. T. C. Lietch, of North Shields, solicitor, has been appointed by Dr. Nicholl, Commissary of the Faculties, a Public Notary, in the stead of Mr. John Lowrey, deceased.

The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Marine Insurance Company held their half-annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the Three Indian Kings, Quayside, when a very satisfactory statement was made by the Directors, and a dividend for the half-year declared at the value of ten per cent. per annum, making a total of 40 per cent. dividend since the establishment of the company at the close of 1836. In the evening, the proprietors dined together at the same place, (Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair, and John Jobling, Esq., vice,) and partook of the very sumptuous providing made by Mr. Webb, with a zest and good fellowship highly illustrative of the unanimity of the proprietors, and auspicious of their future success.

The members of the Gateshead Fell Association for the Prosecution of Felons, held their annual meeting, and partook of a sumptuous dinner, at Mrs. Carrick's, the Ship inn, Wrekenton, on the 16th Aug., (Michael Hall, Esq., in the chair). The sociality of the evening was great—and it was a most gratifying announcement to the members, that "felons," of late, had become so scarce on the Fell, that a "prosecution" had not taken place for several years. The members, however, enjoyed themselves so much, that even were the race of rogues to become extinct, we are of opinion the Society would not die with them. Such "maiden sessions" are pleasant to hold, and highly creditable to the district.

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THE LATE MR. JAMES CHARLTON.

A HANDSOME Mural Monument (executed by Mr. Craggs) has been placed in St. Mary's church, Gateshead, to the memory of the late highly-talented and much-respected master of the Anchorage School. The Rector (the Rev. J. Davies) readily relinquished his customary fee for the erection of the monument, to mark his sense of the valuable services rendered to Gateshead by Mr. Charlton. The inscription is as follows:—

To the Memory of
Mr. James Charlton, late Vestry Clerk,
and Master of the Anchorage School,
of Gateshead,
who died the 8th day of July, 1840,
in the sixtieth year of his age,
and who, during a period of upwards of twenty years,
faithfully and zealously laboured in the
service of his fellow-townsmen,
this Monument is erected,
at the expence of fifty-three of his
Neighbours and Friends.

The following are the "neighbours and friends" referred to in the inscription:—

W. H. Brockett, Mayor	R. Hetherington
John Barras, Ald., J.P.	George Watson
James Pollock, Ald., J.P.	John Little
Thomas Wilson, Ald.	W. L. Harle
Wm. Hymers, J.P.	J. D. Weatherley
G. H. Ramsay, J.P.	Henry Walker
Joseph Cout (Town Councillors)	A. M'Leod
Robert Davis (Town Councillors)	Stephen Hall
John Fairbairn (Town Councillors)	H. Sanderson
James Hymers (Town Councillors)	Edward Robson
John Potts (Town Councillors)	Robert Dodd
Thomas Revely (Town Councillors)	Henry Harrison
Ralph Wylam (Town Councillors)	N. Andrews
Wm. Kell, Town Clerk	William Joyce
Wm. Wylam, Treasurer of the Borough	Joseph Robson
Thomas Swinburne, Clerk to the Magistrates	Robert Lowthin
Joseph Cowen, Chairman of the Gateshead Union	A. R. Bowes
W. Rowntree, Clerk to ditto	George Bell
W. Walker, Treasurer of ditto	E. Riddle
John Freeman	Wm. Barkus
John Pattison	Joshua Johnson
Wm. Ozwald	William Douglas
Joseph Angus	B. Matchitt
Thomas Sowerby	John Colman
T. H. Apedaile	Emerson Charnley
James Brydon	Thomas Hodgson
	T. Lough
	John Charlton
	John Ormston

The members of the Gateshead Florists' Society held their annual show of carnations and piccotees, at the house of Mr. James Scott, sign of the Half Moon, Gateshead, on Monday, Aug. 16, when the prizes were awarded as follows:—*Carnations.*—Mr. Isaac Scott, Newcastle, 1st, 2d, and 4th, with *Sherwood's Coranthus*, *Hutchinson's Lady Ridley*, and *Sandham's Lady Kay*; Mr. John Wilson, Newcastle, 3d, with *Pope's London Queen*; Mr. Francis Mitchinson, Newcastle, 5th, with *Butt's Lord Rodney*. *Piccotees.*—Mr. Isaac Scott, Newcastle, 1st, 2d, 4th, and 5th, with *Sellah de Rhone*, *Master Campbell*, *Pike's Defiance*, and *Ford's Isabella*. Mr. John Morris, Heaton, 3d, with *Douglass's Prince Leopold*.

The annual meeting of the Gateshead Auxiliary Bible Society was held in the evening of Aug. 20th, in the town-hall, Oakwellgate, (the Rector, the Rev. J. Davies, in the chair). The Rev. E. Tasker, one of the Secretaries, read the Report of the Committee and the Accounts of the Treasurer, which (when we consider that this Auxiliary was only recently resuscitated) may be described as satisfactory. The receipts of the past year were £69 9s., and a balance of £6 2s. 3d. remains in hand. The Rev. Chairman stated, that in addition to the Bibles circulated by the Gateshead Auxiliary, 150 copies had passed through his hands in the year 1840-41. On the motion of the Rev. James Nelson, seconded by Mr. George Richardson, the Report was ordered to be printed. Mr. Ralph Walters moved a resolution expressive of thankfulness that the Parent Society continued to prosper; and the Rev. G. Brown, in seconding the resolution, gratified the meeting with several details of the Society's operations. Mr. Sanderson Walker (seconded by Mr. Rowntree) moved a vote of thanks to the Committee and Collectors of the Ladies' Association; and also, that the following gentlemen be the Officers and Committee of the Gateshead Auxiliary:—Mr. John Vickers, Treasurer; Rev. E. Tasker and Mr. W. Brown, Secretaries; Mr. W. Hedley, Depositary; and Messrs. H. Brady, Thomas Halliday, R. Osborne, D. Haggie, sen., W. Rowntree, J. Hodgson, William Verty, D. Oliver, J. Rae, C. I'Anson, W. Colquhoun, and T. H. Apedaile, Committee. This resolution having been adopted, thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

The examination of the boys of St. Edmund's chapel school, Gateshead, (170 in number,) was held on Thursday, in the presence of a considerable number of inhabitants, including the parents of some of the children, but not so many as we could have wished to see. The Rev. J. Davies, the rector of the parish, and also the Rev. H. Barrett, subjected the boys to rather a severe ordeal—especially Mr. Barrett, who put (to the more advanced classes) upwards of a hundred questions in geography, all of which were satisfactorily answered, although we have reason to know that there was no previous drilling for this trying examination. We regard this fact, and, indeed, the state of the school generally, as highly creditable to its master, Mr. William Clifford.—AUG. 21.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.

After SATURDAY the 14th of August, the Trains will be arranged as follows:—

Leave Newcastle and Redheugh.	*Arrive at Carlisle.*
Mail Train,* half-past 5 morning....	quarter-past 9.
Train,* 9 o'clock.....	half-past 12.
Train,* half-past 11 o'clock	3 o'clock.
Mail Train, half-past 2 afternoon ..	half-past 5.
Train,* 5 o'clock.....	half-past 8.
Train,* 7 o'clock for Haydon Bridge.	
SUNDAYS.	
Mail Train,* 9 o'clock morning.....	quarter-past 12.
Mail Train,* 5 o'clock afternoon.....	quarter-past 8.

Leave Carlisle	*Arrive at Newcastle and Redheugh.*
Mail Train,* half-past 5 Morning....	quarter-past 9.
Mail Train, 10 o'clock.....	1 o'clock.
Train,* 12 o'clock.....	half-past 3.
Train,* half-past 2 afternoon....	half-past 6.
Train, 5 o'clock	8 o'clock.
SUNDAYS.	
Mail Train,* 9 o'clock morning.....	quarter-past 12.
Mail Train,* 5 o'clock afternoon....	quarter-past 8.

N.B. The Trains distinguished by an * will stop at all the Stations, the others, being Quick Trains, will stop at the Stations only which are enumerated below.

The Fares of all the Trains will then be charged as follows:—

Newcastle or Redheugh to	Close Car. s.	Close Car. d.	Open Car. s.	Open Car. d.	*Carlisle to*	Close Car. s.	Close Car. d.	Open Car. s.	Open Car. d.
Blaydon	1	0	0	6	Wetheral	1	0	0	6
Wylam	1	6	1	2	Milton	2	0	1	6
Stocksfield	2	6	1	10	Rosehill	3	3	2	6
Corbridge	3	3	2	3	Haltwhistle ...	4	3	3	3
Hexham	3	10	2	6	Haydon Bridge	5	10	4	6
Haydon Bridge	5	3	4	0	Hexham	7	3	5	8
Haltwhistle ...	6	10	5	4	Corbridge	7	9	6	0
Rosehill	8	0	6	0	Stocksfield	8	9	6	9
Milton	9	0	7	0	Wylam	9	6	7	4
Wetheral	10	6	8	0	Blaydon	10	6	8	0
Carlisle	11	0	8	6	Newcastle or Redheugh ..	11	0	8	6

And to the intermediate Stations in proportion.

The Doors will be closed five minutes before the time of starting.

Seven Coaches run daily between Carlisle and Lancaster (passing through Penrith, which is the direct route for the Lakes) for Preston, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and London. Steam Boats ply regularly between Carlisle and Liverpool; also between Carlisle and Belfast. Coaches depart for Maryport and Whitehaven, and for Annan, Dumfries, Ayr,

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Port Patrick, &c. Four Coaches run daily between Carlisle and Edinburgh, and also four Coaches between Carlisle and Glasgow. Passengers leaving Newcastle by the half-past eleven o'clock Train will reach Carlisle in time for the Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dumfries, and Port Patrick Mails and Coaches, arriving at Edinburgh or Glasgow the same night. Passengers leaving Edinburgh or Glasgow by the Mail at night for Carlisle will arrive there in time for the 10 o'clock Train, and reach Newcastle at one o'clock in the day. Places may be secured at the Railway station, Newcastle, by the morning and evening Mails, and Post Coaches, for Lancaster, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and places on these lines of road; also by the Mail and Poast Coach for Annan, Dumfries, Port Patrick, &c.

By order,

JOHN ADAMSON, Clerk to the Company.

Newcastle upon Tyne, August 4, 1841.

HOUSE OF LORDS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 24.

The LORD CHANCELLOR read her Majesty's speech to the assembled Lords and Commons, the Queen having determined (under the advice of her physicians) to open Parliament by commission. The speech was as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you that her Majesty has availed herself of the earliest opportunity of resorting to your advice and assistance after the dissolution of the last Parliament.

Her Majesty continues to receive from foreign powers gratifying assurances of their desire to maintain with her Majesty the most friendly relations.

Her Majesty has the satisfaction of informing you, that the objects for which the treaty of the 15th of July, 1840, was concluded between her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and the Sultan, have been fully accomplished; and it is gratifying to her Majesty to be enabled to state, that the temporary separation which the measures taken in the execution of that treaty created between the contracting parties and France has now ceased.

Her Majesty trusts that the union of the principal powers upon all matters affecting the great interests of Europe, will afford a firm security for the maintenance of peace.

Her Majesty is glad to be able to inform you, that in consequence of the evacuation of Ghorian by the Persian troops, her Majesty has ordered her Minister to the Court of Persia to return to Teheran.

Her Majesty regrets that the negociations between her plenipotentiaries in China and the Chinese Government have not yet been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and that it has been necessary to call into action the forces which her Majesty has sent to the China seas; but her Majesty still trusts that the Emperor of China will see the justice of the demands which her Majesty's plenipotentiaries have been instructed to make.

Her Majesty is happy to inform you that the differences which had arisen between Spain and Portugal, about the execution of a treaty concluded by those powers in 1830, for regulating the navigation of the Douro, have been adjusted amicably, and with honour to both parties, by the aid of her Majesty's mediation.

The debt incurred by the Legislature of Upper Canada, for the purposes of public works, is a serious obstacle to further improvements, which are essential to the prosperity of the United Province. Her Majesty has authorized the Governor-General to make a communication on the subject to the Council and Assembly of Canada. Her Majesty will direct the papers to be laid before you, and trusts that your earnest attention will be directed to matters so materially affecting the welfare of Canada and the strength of the empire.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—We have to assure you that her Majesty relies with entire confidence on your loyalty and zeal to make adequate provision for the public service, as well as for the further application of sums granted by the last Parliament.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—We are more especially commanded to declare to you that the extraordinary expenses which the events in Canada, China, and the Mediterranean have occasioned, and the necessity of maintaining a force adequate to the protection of our extensive possessions, have made it necessary to consider the means of increasing the public revenues. Her Majesty is anxious that this object should be effected in the manner least burdensome to her people; and it has appeared to her Majesty, after full deliberation, that you may, at this juncture, properly direct your attention to the revision of duties affecting the productions of foreign countries. It will be for you to consider whether some of these duties are not so trifling in amount as to be unproductive to the revenue, while they are vexatious to commerce. You may further examine whether the principle of protection, upon which others of these duties are founded, be not carried to an extent injurious alike to the income of the State and the interests of the people.

Her Majesty is desirous that you should consider the laws which regulate the trade in corn. It will be for you to determine whether these laws do not aggravate the natural fluctuations of supply, whether they do not embarrass trade, derange the currency, and by their operation diminish the comfort and increase the privations of the great body of the community.

Her Majesty feeling the deepest sympathy with those of her subjects who are now suffering from distress and want of employment, it is her earnest prayer that all your deliberations may be guided by wisdom, and may conduce to the happiness of our beloved people.

ANTI-CORN-LAW CONFERENCE.

AT the meeting of Christian Ministers in Manchester, on the subject of the Corn Laws, a memorial from 617 workmen in the employ of Sharp, Roberts, & Co., engineers, was presented, in which they said:—

We have long been deeply convinced that the food monopoly is unjust, unchristian, and oppressive. Our situation as workmen in a very large manufacturing establishment has given us many opportunities of witnessing its destructive influence on trade; although, owing to the peculiar position and extensive connection of our respected employers, we have not hitherto (comparatively) suffered from its direful effects to the extent that others have; yet our familiarity with the homes and circumstances of the working population in this town enables us to affirm that the amount of misery and want which the corn-laws have produced among us is heart-rending and appalling.

There was a memorial from the hand-loom weavers, read by a deputation from that body. We quote a portion:—

For years past we have been applying to Parliament for a redress of our grievances, and to make such alterations in the corn and provision laws, as in our humble opinion would not only improve our condition, but would benefit the country at large. For the poor and wretched in our present deplorable situation, we should be sorry to ask for any favour from the government of our common country that was likely to be injurious to any portion of her Majesty's subjects. But, after all, and upon a principle of common justice, we do think we should receive, in return for our labour, *food, shelter, and clothing*.

In 1831 we sent our petition to Parliament praying for a repeal of the tax on bread. Henry Hunt, the honest friend of his country, presented the said petitions for us. In his place in Parliament he told the members then present the ruin that would overtake us as a nation if a different line of policy was not pursued in connection with laws that affected our commerce; and unfortunately for us, we feel their bitter effects when we hear our children crying for bread and have none to give them.

The deputation was examined as to the condition of the hand-loom weavers, and gave most distressing details of their destitution. At the close of the examination,

The Rev. Mr. ATKIN said:—I think, Mr. Chairman, we have submitted our friends to an examination sufficiently minute, and I am sure they have demonstrated that they have not only hearts to feel, but minds to think. (Applause.) We have put these queries, not that we may lift the rag that conceals the squalid misery behind, but that we may communicate to the sympathies of our loved countrymen the astounding fact, that, whilst they are living in all the luxuries that wealth can purchase or authority can command, there are those at their very doors sunk to a state of wretchedness that might melt a heart of stone. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. ACKWORTH, of Horton College, Bradford, came forward amidst loud cheers to move the consideration and adoption of an address to the Queen.

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY.

May it please your Majesty,—We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, being Christian ministers of various denominations, and from different parts of the United Kingdom, assembled in Manchester the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th days of August, 1841, to consider the laws respecting the food of the kingdom, beg permission to approach your Majesty with an expression of our sentiments in relation to the momentous subject which has thus brought us together. * * * * * * *

Brought by our professional avocations into daily intercourse with the more numerous classes of our fellow-subjects, it is, as it has for some time past been, our painful lot to witness scenes of wide-spread, heart-rending, and ever-deepening distress, arising mainly—as, alas! is too obvious—from a want of adequate employ, and a consequent destitution, to a very great extent, of the common necessaries of life.

In endeavouring to ascertain the cause of this most deplorable state of things, we beg to assure your Majesty that after patient and dispassionate investigation, we have been constrained to admit the conviction, that it is to be found primarily and chiefly in those laws which, by unrighteously interfering with the arrangements of our beneficent Creator, produce an artificial scarcity of food, impose shackles on trade and commerce, cramp the efforts of industry, and, even where they seem to benefit, occasion only a delusive advantage.

Encouraged by the parental solicitude which your Majesty has uniformly manifested for the well-being of your subjects, we humbly, yet most earnestly solicit your Majesty's gracious interposition on this behalf, so far as it can be constitutionally rendered; assured that nothing more becomes the dignity or answers to the office of Princes and Potentates, than an imitation of the Sovereign Ruler, "who is good to all," and "whose tender mercies are over all his works."

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON read an address to the people of the United Kingdom, prepared by the committee. The following are extracts:—

The corn and provision laws of this country operate with continually aggravating force, in consequence of the natural and inevitable increase in the numbers of the people.

The most painful evidence of the truth of this principle has been laid before us from all parts of the kingdom, proving the poverty and privations of the labouring classes, whose general fortitude under their augmenting wretchedness has awakened our sympathy, and called for our present interference in their behalf.

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In addition to the existence of domestic sufferings, often in the most distressing forms of misery and disease, proof of an increased mortality has been forced upon us, and we have had the appalling fact disclosed that famine already is doing its deadly work among the most destitute portions of the community.

The moral effects of the corn and provision laws have occupied our serious consideration.

It has been proved to us that the physical deterioration of multitudes of our countrymen has produced an alarming amount of demoralization. Under this aspect, these laws have appeared to us to require the most anxious attention of all who are concerned for the advancement of the spiritual and eternal interests of their fellow-creatures.

As Christian ministers, prizing above all other considerations the interests of morality and religion, we have been unable to anticipate without apprehension and dread the growth and development of those passions which are stimulated and called into action by hunger and destitution.

Fellow-countrymen! we have asked ourselves if the calamities we have been called to contemplate, and the more dreadful consequences with which we are threatened, are to be regarded as the just judgment and visitation of the Almighty; and our unanimous answer is—No! We have sought instruction in the word and through the works of God, and have been taught by both that a bountiful and unfailing provision has been made for the wants of every living creature. We stand forth, therefore, to assert and vindicate the divine wisdom and beneficence. We charge existing misery and impending danger upon the selfish or ignorant inventions of man, which have frustrated the parental designs of the Ruler of the Universe.

The chastisements we are enduring are self-inflicted, our national distresses are the results of a departure by human legislation from the spirit and mandates of the divine law, and our strong conviction is, that our present deliverance and future safety are to be secured only by recognizing and observing the unerring and clearly-revealed will of a beneficent Creator.

Our duty, then, as ministers of religion, is plain. On scriptural grounds we are called upon to denounce all human restrictions upon the supply of food to the people, and to employ all appropriate means to place the fatherly provision of God within the reach of his suffering and famishing children.

This address was adopted, on the motion of the Rev. Mr. HINTON, seconded by the Rev. Mr. MASSIE; and the Rev. Mr. SCALES moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament, which was seconded by the Rev. Mr. M'KERROW. On the motion of the Rev. E. H. NOLAN, seconded by the Rev. PATRICK BREWSTER, the petition was ordered to be entrusted to Earl Ducie, for presentation to the Lords, and to the members for Salford and Manchester, for presentation to the Commons.

The Rev. J. P. MURSELL of Leicester, moved that the 6th of September be recommended to Christian churches as a day of humiliation and prayer, on the subject of the corn and provision-laws—which was seconded and agreed to.

Mr. GISBORNE, M.P., and the Rev. Messrs. HOYLE, of Stalybridge, GUNN, of Eastern Temple, Ireland, HARRIS, of Ringwood, Hants, GOODE, of Gosport, MORGAN, of Chichester, GARVEY, of London, ARMSTRONG, of Bristol, GILES, of Liverpool, SEDGWICK, of Brighton, SCOTT, of Airedale College, SOLLY, of Yeovil, JONES, of Wrexham, SMITH, of Rotherham College, and AULD, of Greenock, addressed the Conference.

Mr. COBDEN presented an address of congratulation and of thankfulness from the Anti-Corn-Law League.

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON delivered a splendid speech, for the whole of which we would gladly make room, if we could. But we can only give the conclusion:—

Finally, suffer me to say to you, be strong and of good courage. You have every thing to hope, and nothing to fear, in the work in which you have entered. (Hear, hear, hear.) The patron of the cause you have espoused is the God who considereth the poor. (Hear, hear.) On earth, the Sovereign to whom in loyalty and love you are attached leads you onwards in your career of mercy. (Hear, hear, hear.) The choicest of England's nobility is with you, and one of the hereditary peerage of the land sits by my side at this moment (Lord Ducie), a pledged fellow-labourer in your hallowed enterprise. (Great cheering.) In the Commons of England the freely-chosen representatives of the people are on your side. (Hear, hear.) The blessing and prayer of the perishing go with you. Nations are looking on, and will applaud every effort that you make to place the bounties of Divine Providence within the reach of a suffering people. (Hear, hear.) The testimony of your own consciences will support you amidst all the reproaches which may be heaped upon you. It will not be long ere the moral power of the country will rise in its might and magnificence, and overcome every obstacle which selfishness and ignorance have placed in the way of your success. (Loud cheers.) In the words of apostolical valediction, therefore, I bid you "farewell, and God speed;" saying, "Be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labour shall not be in vain in the Lord."

The Rev. THOMAS SPENCER, of Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath, a clergyman of the Church of England, who presided on Saturday, closed the conference by saying:—He thought he saw in the ministers assembled, a right conformity with our Saviour's prayer, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil." They were not taken out of the world, and he prayed fervently that both they and others might not only be delivered from all evil, but especially from the evil of the corn-laws. (Cheers.) Those had met face to face on this occasion who had never met before, and he felt almost sorrow at parting. Till now many differences of opinion had kept them apart from each other. He had never seen Dr. Pye Smith or Dr. Vaughan, or the greater part of the ministers of that assembly before; but during this week they had spoken together, and he hoped had also agreed in the other characteristic, "the fear of the Lord," and if they had spoken in that fear, there was One who had hearkened and heard them, and who would prosper the work when they were gone. When infidels heard and knew that men of all denominations and principles, laying aside party feeling and sectarian prejudices, had met together with one accord and mind, after the manner of the first Christians, and had not only given to each other the right hand of fellowship, but the hearts of brothers too, they would say—"Surely there is something of a truth in this:" and those who sneered at religion, and asked, "What good can ministers of religion do to us," when they found that through their instrumentality bread was made cheap, and trade was made free, and that they had again got an honest trade, or honest work in the world, they would say, "Of all the men in the world the ministers of religion are the men for us." And ought it not to be so? The very name "ministers," meant "sert vants." They should be the servants of the people, and especially ought they to be the servants of the poor; and they wished such to be the result of this conference, and that that saying in them should be verified—that the poor had risen up and called them blessed. He prayed that the Almighty would pour out his blessing on every one who was, and had been assembled in that place. Like an American Indian, who at a large meeting said he could not shake hands with all present, he (the Chairman) would declare from the spot where he stood, he shook hands with them all at once, and he now declared the conference dissolved. (Applause.)

Thus closed this important Conference on the Corn Laws—the number of ministers present having exceeded the number of the members of the House of Commons.

The *Patriot* gives an analysis of the Conference, from which we learn learn that there were present—Independents, 274; Baptists, 182; Scotch Seceders, 30; Unitarians, 23; Methodist New Connexion, 21; Wesleyan Association, 18; Scotch Relief, 12; Catholics, 10; Primitive Methodists, 9; Presbyterians, 8; Countess of Huntingdon, 4; Swedenborgians, 4; Inghamites, 3; Wesleyan Methodists, Calvinistic Methodists, Bible Christians, Church of England, Church of Scotland, Christian Church, and Congregational, 2 each; Congregational Methodists, Independent Methodists, Methodists, Calvinists, New Church, Oldham-street Society, Nazarene Church, and Christian Congregation, 1 each; besides others, whose denominations were not ascertained.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.—The WINTER SESSION will commence on the 1st of October, 1841.

Anatomy and Physiology	WILLIAM MORRISON, M.R.C.S. / DENNIS EMBLETON, M.D.
Anatomical Demonstrations and Dissections	W. H. FIFE, M.R.C.S.
Practice of Physic	EDWARD CHARLTON, M.D.
Materia Medica and Therapeutics	ROBERT ELLIOT, M.D.
Principles of Chemistry	R. M. GLOVER, M.D.
Surgery	Sir JOHN FIFE, M.R.C.S.
Mathematics and Natural Philosophy	JAS. SWAPE, Mathematical Master, Royal Grammar School.
Geology	WILLIAM KING.

SUMMER SESSION.

Operative Surgery	Sir JOHN FIFE, M.R.C.S. / W. H. FIFE, M.R.C.S.
Medical Jurisprudence	EDWARD CHARLTON, M.D. / R. M. GLOVER, M.D.
Midwifery, &c.	WILLIAM DAWSON, M.R.C.S.
Botany and Vegetable Physiology	JOHN THORNHILL.
Practical Chemistry	R. M. GLOVER, M.D.

WILLIAM DAWSON, Secretary.

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AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.

A DUET FOR THE TIMES.

Two worthy English gentlemen, Mr. HILLYARD, of Thorpelands, and Mr. F. H. FAWKES, of Farnley, have been wooing the Muses. Mr. Hillyard, it seems, at the late Northampton wool-fair, presided at the usual festive meeting, and sung the company a song of his own composing; and Mr. Fawkes has since "adapted it to the climate and condition of Yorkshire." We give both of these productions, making the verses of the two songs to alternate. The poetry is not altogether perfect, but the duet will amuse our readers, rural as well as urban.

HILLYARD.

Of all the employments of life,
To me there is nothing like farming:
It creates no unneighbourly strife,
Or anything else that's alarming.
Let the sailor go ploughing the ocean,
Let the lawyer read over his brief:
Of sea-ploughing I've not any notion,
And in lawyers I've little belief.

FAWKES.

Of all the employments of life
Suppose there be nothing like farming,
That its sessions exhibit no strife,
The assizes nothing alarming;
Yet if sailors did not plough the ocean,
None but corn-factors furnish'd a brief,
We'd no shares but plough-shares, I've a notion
We should shortly need *poor-law relief*.

HILLYARD.

Manufacturers hold their heads high,
And so do our mercantile men;
But this truth they cannot deny,
So we'll say it again and agan:—
The first want of nature is food,
Who denies this must be a great ninny:
The plough does a great deal more good
Than the shuttle or famed spinning-jenny.

FAWKES.

Manufacturers hold their heads high,
Merchants look up sometimes, and what then?
For this truth we can never deny,
Though we try it again and again:—
Though the first want of nature is food,
We're not fur-clad, or feathered, or finny;
Nor can ploughs for the belly, though good,
Make a shift for the back like the jenny.

HILLYARD.

So here is success to the plough,
The drill, and the harrow, and flail:
May good farming produce corn enow,
And good dairying milk in the pail:
May good grazing produce enough meat,
May good farmers lead happy lives:
Without females they can't have this treat,
So here's to their sweethearts and wives.

FAWKES.

So here, with success to the plough,
Let the shuttle be joined with the flail:
For without it, though corn be enow,
Phœbe *decently* can't fill her pail:
Though our pastures produce enough meat,
And our farmer, well-fed, happy lives,
A petticoat don't chill his treat,
Or the breeches his sweethearts and wives.

HILLYARD.

Of the farmers it ne'er can be said
That their labourers they have forgot:
May they daily have plenty of bread,
And a good piece of meat in the pot.
May good labourers have masters kind,
Who at all times will fair wages give
To dependants—thus bearing in mind
The good system of live and let live.

FAWKES.

Of the farmer no more be it said
That his labourers he has forgot:
May they soon then have much cheaper bread,
And their meat, not themselves, go to pot.
To dependants each master be kind,
And henceforward evidence give
That he's learnt, though long kept out of mind,
The good tenet of *live and let live*.

HILLYARD.

True Britons must surely desire
That the workmen in every trade,
Should obtain all the food they require
By the wages which they shall have made.
Should the Corn-Laws clearly be shown
Too restrictive, and cause of distress,
British farmers then frankly should own
They ought to be made something less.

FAWKES.

All but brute beasts must surely desire
That the workmen of every trade
Should, besides all the food they require,
Have the means of being decently clad;
And if the *Corn-Laws*, as now shown,
Don't relieve stomachic distress,
Such laws all but brutes would disown,
If they make too one body *shirtless*.

HILLYARD.

How greatly soever are prized
Manufactures, and commerce, and trade,
To these must be not sacrificed
Agriculture, by laws to be made.
Manufacturers must soon bear a share,
When farmers distressed shall complain:
For both should the laws be quite fair,
For both are as links of one chain.

FAWKES.

How justly by us should be prized
Manufactures, and commerce, and trade!
For how soon should we be sacrificed
If deprived of their bread-eating aid?
The farmer and merchant much share
In the wants that make either complain:
Then for both let the laws be made fair,
And neither be gall'd by their chain.

HILLYARD.

The protection which farmers shall have,
Must be left to the Commons and Lords:
We farmers do nothing more crave
Than that which with just right accords.
We think, although merchants complain
Of matters to us quite bewildering,
There's no need to import foreign grain,
Any more than there is foreign children.

FAWKES.

The protection that farming need have
Can't be granted by Commons or Lords:
It is customers we farmers crave,
The custom that good trade affords.
And if some of short commons complain,
Why, to me it is somewhat bewildering,
When home-grown is too scarce, foreign grain
May not feed our poor labourers' children.

HILLYARD.

Never yet was a truly great nation
Dependent on others for corn:
Britain could feed its own population,
And its thousands as yet to be born.
To make the land produce its most,
Each farmer must do his endeavour,
And drink the good old-fashioned toast—
England! old England for ever!

FAWKES.

Never yet was a truly great nation
Restricted to eating home corn:
How then can our vast population,
With its *thousand more* every day born?
Let then each of us all do his utmost,
And the share with the shuttle endeavour
To fill up the same cup to the *old* English toast
Of "the land we *both live in* for ever."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

SIR,—There is in your paper of this morning a letter on the subject of the Hanoverian Stade tolls, signed "A HULL MERCHANT," on which, both for the satisfaction of your correspondent, and for my own justification, I would wish to offer a few observations.

The "HULL MERCHANT" intimates that I have ceased to devote any attention to the removal of this grievance. He is mistaken. It is true that having brought this question fully before the House of Commons in 1840, I have been "silent" in that assembly respecting it during the present year. At the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade, however, (places where my representation could be useful,) I suspect there have been very few complaints of my silence on the subject of the Stade tolls. I believe that I am sufficiently aware of what has been going on towards the settlement of the question, to be able to supply some information to your correspondent.

At the beginning of this year, Lord Palmerston appointed a British commission to meet at Hamburgh similar functionaries named by Hanson, for the purpose of adjusting the Stade tariff according to the provisions of the treaties by which the toll has been sanctioned. On the meeting of these commissioners, in April last, Mr. Ward, as I am informed, proposed, on the part of the British Government, to admit the right of Hanover to levy dues on merchandise passing up the Elbe, to the extent of 1-16th per cent., and to arrange the new tariff on this basis. The Hanoverian commissioners appear to have objected to negotiate on these terms; and Mr. Ward, on applying for further instructions from home, under these circumstances, was informed by Lord Palmerston that no further concession could be made, since 1-16th per cent. was the full amount of toll which Hanover was entitled by treaty to demand.

About this time, events occured in the British Parliament which rendered a change of Government among us exceedingly probable. The Crown of Hanover seems to have anticipated, at the hands of a Conservative Secretary for Foreign Affairs, terms for the settlement of the Stade toll more favourable to its interests than Lord Palmerston was willing to sanction. Accordingly, Hanover peremptorily required that the tariff actually in force should be considered the basis of the commissioners' negociations. On this demand being refused by Mr. Ward, the Hanoverian commissioners were recalled, and all the proceedings broken off by their Government. As far as I can learn, this is the present state of the question.

It would have been impossible for Lord Palmerston to admit the existing tariff as the basis of the new agreement; for, independently of the exorbitant rates of duty to which Hanover therein asserts its claim, the number and variety of them alone would render such a concession fatal to the rights of our commerce on the Elbe.

The world never saw such a tariff as the Crown of Hanover has enforced at the town of Stade. It taxes specifically 2,368 enumerated articles. Nor is this all. Each of these articles is subjected to many different duties, so that the real number of particular rates of duty which come into play, is no less than 6,688! Compare this with any other tariff known to commerce!

The Prussian tariff (zoll-verein) taxes specifically	43	articles.
The Austrian ditto	65	"
The Russian ditto	121	"
United States of America ditto	494	"
British dittto (so much and so justly complained of).	1,152	"
Hanoverian State ditto (reckoning the different rates)	6,688	"

It is on the basis of such a tariff as this that Hanover proposes

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to carry on negociations. Assuredly "the noble Foreign Secretary would have been bamboozled by King Ernest," or "would have totally forgotten the protection due to British commerce in the waters of the Elbe," had he sanctioned such a proposition.

"A HULL MERCHANT" refers with expressions of just disapprobation to certain articles which have recently appeared in the *Times* newspaper, urging the policy of our conciliating Hanover, and alleging that the settlement of the Stade toll ought to form part of a treaty with that state that we might be able to perpetuate the present Hanoverian duties on importation, they being much lower than those of the Prussian Custom's Union. Lord Palmerston is not likely to be deceived by such plausibilities; and I trust that no Minister who may succeed him at the Foreign-Office will be induced to adopt such a policy. The reduction of the Stade toll is of far more importance to the commercial interests of Great Britain, than any such treaty with a petty state like Hanover can be to them.

The north-western League, moreover, is gradually breaking up. It now consists only of Hanover and Oldenburgh, and scarcely comprises a population of two millions of people.

The object towards which all our measures should be directed, is to obtain from the Prussian League, now including a population of 27,000,000 of people, a reduction of its dues on British cottons, woollens, hardware, &c., and to guard against the ruin of our trade with Germany, which would be effected by the augmentation of the duties now imposed by the Prussian League on our cotton twist and half-manufactured articles. Even if we left the Stade tolls on their own merits, a commercial treaty with Hanover would secure to us little or no advantages, while it would rather embarrass than assist British objects in respect to Prussia, and would certainly excite great irritation throughout Germany.

Let us not be led aside from the important purpose we have undertaken. Let us continue to insist on the just regulation of the Stade tolls.

I can assure your correspondent that I do not consider the change in my public relations with the people of Hull, releases me, in the smallest degree, from the obligation I am under to urge this matter to a speedy and honourable conclusion.

I have the honour to be,
Your very obedient servant,
Conduit-street, Aug. 23. WILLIAM HUTT.

THE DURHAM COUNTY COAL COMPANY.

THE half-yearly meeting of this Company was held on Tuesday last, at Darlington, in the long room of the Sun inn—(F. S. STOKES, Esq., Managing Director, in the Chair.) Upwards of a hundred gentlemen were present, including Messrs. Hugh and T. W. Panton, and B. Bell, of Sunderland; Messrs. Andrew, Leadbitter, and Leeman of York; Mr. Stokes, jun., of Stockton; Mr. Ness, of Helmsley; and Mr. Dunn, of Newcastle.

The Report of the Directors was read. It alluded to the depressed state of the Coal Trade—congratulated the Company on a saving of £500 or £600 a-year, effected by the Directors—stated that the shares in arrears and forfeited only amounted to 41—announced that the collieries had realized upon the half-year a profit of £811, although the preceding half-year had exhibited a loss, and also another gratifying fact, viz., the successful winning of the coal at Whitworth, which had turned out equal to their expectations, and presented every prospect of leaving a fair remuneration to the Company—and, finally, it stated that the Directors were earnestly engaged in pursuing the legal remedies against the parties concerned in the selling of the collieries—that something like a proposal for a reference to arbitration had been received through Mr. Barrett, but that the Directors were "determined not to relax in their efforts to obtain redress" by such measures as would ensure "that relief, under the original contract for the sale of the collieries, to which they were advised by eminent counsel they were justly entitled."

Mr. NESS having inquired as to the items of saving mentioned in the Report, it was explained that the Chairman had given up £100 of his own salary, and there was a reduction in the viewing department of £235—in Mr. Simpson's salary, £40—and Mr. Arkless's services would be dispensed with at the expiration of the quarter, by agreement. The salary of Mr. John Forster, it was stated by Mr. Cleaver, was £580 a-year, and Mr. Dunn's £350. The total reduction would be £635 per year.

The Auditor's Report confirmed the statement of the Directors as to the profit of £811.

Mr. DUNN read a Report on the Collieries. The Gordon colliery, although carried on remarkably cheap, was still subject to a great drawback in the large quantity of small coal, and by the basis of 47,000 tons to which it was restricted. The Evenwood was gradually wearing into a coal of finer quality. Its basis had also been considerably reduced. The Coxhoe was also greatly advancing in character, by the extra pains taken with it; and the main seam, now that it was drained, was promising. The Whitworth also promised well. Mr. Dunn, in conclusion, expressed his opinion, that now that the unprofitable system of consigning had been abandoned, and the demand for their coal became more legitimate, the difficulties of the Company would be in a great measure removed.

Mr. BELL and the CHAIRMAN complained of the reduction of the bases, and thought they were not so well off in this respect as some of their neighbours; and after some discussion on the subject, the Report was moved and adopted.

Mr. DUNN and the CHAIRMAN, in answer to Mr. Leeman, stated that the five-quarter seam was also working in Gibson's pit, adjoining to Cragwood—that it was part of the coal sold to the Northern Mining Company—and that Mr. Gibson had taken it of that Company, and had had it twelve months. The quantity of this seam, it was stated, was 200 acres.

Mr. LEEMAN inquired if Mr. Gibson was included as a joint-defendant in the proceedings instituted by the Directors; because if Mr. G., as one of the Northern Mining Company, and at the same time a member of the County Coal Company, or if as purchaser from the former, had become possessed of coal of which the County Coal Company had been divested by false reports of its worthlessness, it was clear to him that Mr. G. should be proceeded against.

Mr. R. W. JACKSON, the solicitor, replied in the negative.

The Rev. G. DIXON moved that Mr. Panton and Mr. Gibson be removed from the Directory, in consequence of their connection with the Northern Coal Company—especially Mr. Gibson, whose laudation of Mr. Forster, at a dinner at Durham, had been published, and whose avocations were so numerous, that he had not even found time to attend the present meeting.

Upon this motion a long discussion arose—the CHAIRMAN stating that a letter had been received from Mr. Gibson, tendering his resignation, "if the meeting wished him to retire." This was contended to be only a conditional resignation.

Mr. PANTON having made a satisfactory explanation, his name was omitted from the motion; but, eventually, Mr. Gibson was removed from office, on the motion of Mr. DIXON, seconded by Mr. LEEMAN, without a dissentient voice. Mr. Gibson's letter was ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

On the motion of Mr. NESS, the allowance to the London Board was ordered, in future, not to exceed £50 a-year.

A vote confirmatory of the legal proceedings, and urging the importance of energetic measures, was then passed, after severe animadversions on Mr. Barrett—who, it seems, is a member of the Wesleyan body, and was denounced by Mr. STOCKDALE (himself a member) as a "disgrace" to it, in consequence of his proceedings in the purchase and sale of the coal from the County Coal Company.

It was stated by Mr. LEEMAN, that it had been already decided, that, as respects North Roddymoor, the money was to be refunded, but it was of importance that no settlement of a part only should be acceded to:—the *whole* differences should be adjusted by arbitration, certainly, if possible, but by strong measures, if such should be necessary. The meeting then separated.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hull has called Lord Palmerston's serious attention to the fact, that the proprietors of steamers built at Hamburgh, to trade with Hull, publicly announce that goods by their vessels will be *free from Stade duties*; and as British steamers are subject to them, a difference of about £50 per cargo, independent of the charges of the vessel, will be created, to the prejudice of the British owner, and a direct encouragement be thereby afforded to the building of vessels abroad. Indeed, the whole trade of the Elbe will be monopolized by the Hamburghers. It is to be hoped the Hull merchants will be seconded in their remonstrances by the different sea-ports of the kingdom.

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Lord Grantley deserves the thanks of his countrymen, for having given them additional reason to prize and to cherish that great safeguard of their rights and liberties—Trial by Jury. His Lordship had cast a covetous eye upon a cottage that stood in the immediate neighbourhood of his demesne, which had been in the undisputed possession of a family named Punter for eight and forty years. The Noble Lord demanded rent of the cottager, on the pretence that he was merely a tenant. This demand was resisted, and then Lord Grantley stooped to the petty tyranny of procuring the dismissal of Punter by the master who employed him. He next brought the unyielding Englishman before a Bench of Magistrates, and had him summarily ejected from the house of himself and his father, and the humble edifice razed to the ground. Punter sought reparation in a court of justice. His cause came on for trial, and a *petty* jury gave him a verdict, with £250 damages. This verdict was set aside on some technical flaw in the proceedings—which rendered a new trial necessary. The second trial took place at the late assizes in Surrey, before a *special* jury. The plaintiff was represented in court by Sergeant Shea, who, though he received no fee to stimulate his exertions, most eloquently and ably pleaded the cause of his humble client; and the jury returned a verdict for £275—one of them observing, that "the poor man had been kept out of the money for twelve months, and four per cent. was little enough in the way of interest." A proposal has been made to rebuild the cottage of the plaintiff in an enduring form, as a perpetual monument of the triumph of right over might, through the instrumentality of Trial by Jury. We hope that this proposal may be carried out.

Mr. Hutt's successful exertions on the Sound-Dues question are evidenced by a recent publication, by order of the House of Commons, containing the amended tariff of Sound duties, (on articles not enumerated in the tariff of Christianople, of 1645,) lately agreed to by Lord Palmerston and Baron Blome, the Danish Envoy in London. The tariff provides that the rates are to be paid at the Sound in rixdollars specie, equal to two rix-bank-dollars in paper, and to continue during the period of ten years, commencing on the 1st of June, 1841. The dues to be levied also in the Great and Little Belts. The table (which is too long to publish in our present number) shows a great reduction indeed. For instance:—The duty on coffee is reduced from 24 stivers to 6 per 100lb.; cotton stockings, per 50 pair, from 24 stivers to 6; sugar, per 100lb., from 9 stivers to 5; cotton twist, from 36 stivers to 16 per 100lb.; sewing cotton, per 50lb., from 30 stivers to 15. [48 stivers make a rix-dollar.] We wish Lord Palmerston would treat all Kings alike, and not hesitate so long in forcing his Hanoverian Majesty to act as the Royal Dane has done. Complaints from Hull are again loud and deep against the royal tax-gatherings at Stade; the *correction* (!) of which, we fear, will be left to the tenderness of King Ernest's Orange friends.

Mr. John Richardson, of Gatesbead Low Fell, pitman, has produced in his garden, from one potato of the hen-nest kind, thirty-six potatoes, weighing 6lb, and of excellent quality. The man who could produce two blades of grass where only one grew before, was termed a benefactor of his country. If so, how much more must he be entitled to that honourable distinction, who produces from one potato no less than three dozen!

FARNACRES COLLIERY.—The water having at length been drawn from the pit at Farnacres, near this town, several persons descended on Thursday night last, to search for the remaining bodies of the sufferers by the accident which occurred some months ago; and by four o'clock yesterday morning, they were all recovered, viz., James Rankin, James Heslop, William Wetherby, and Andrew Evans. An inquest having already been held upon one of the sufferers, it is not considered necessary that any further inquiry shall now be held.

FALLING OUT BY THE WAY.—A young couple, from the neighbourhood of the river Tees, arrived at the Tyne on Tuesday, on their way to Gretna Green; but being, apparently, less impatient to reach the matrimonial goal than the ordinary run of runaway lovers, they sojourned in an ancient borough during the night. Previous to retiring to their separate chambers, they had, of course, a *tete a tete* in a sitting-room; and, naturally enough, the conversation turned upon the subject of their interesting trip to the Borders. The bridegroom-elect, with ill-timed vanity, expressed his fears (compassionate youth!) that a certain young lady, whom he had courted aforetime, would be heartbroken when she heard the news of his marriage—a conjecture which led the way to one of those "quarrels of lovers," proverbially described as "the beginning of love," but which, in this instance, was the end of a wedding; for the fugitives parted for the night in high dudgeon, and early in the morning the damsel was on the wing alone, leaving her "fond" companion an opportunity of preserving the heart of his former flame from breaking, by making her his wife.

CONSECRATION OF ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL, WESTGATE HILL.—The new church at Westgate Hill, in the parish of St. John's, Newcastle, which was a short time since opened for divine service, was on Tuesday last consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Durham. His lordship arrived at the church-gate at eleven o'clock, where he was met by a number of the clergy of Newcastle and other parts of the diocese, who accompanied him into church; on entering which, the petition of the perpetual curate and inhabitants of St. John's parish to the bishop, praying him to consecrate the chapel and burying-ground, was read, and the consecration service was commenced by reading the 24th Psalm, the bishop, followed by the clergy, proceeding down the centre aisle, and taking a seat at the communion table. After the service had been concluded within the church, the bishop, the clergy, and the congregation, left the church, and walked over the burying-ground, the bishop reading the consecration service. On re-entering the church, the Rev. Mr. Wright, perpetual curate of St. John's, read prayers, and an impressive sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop from 1 Kings, viii. 17, 18; and a collection was made, amounting to £23 10s., towards defraying the expenses of the building. This place of worship has been erected as a chapel of ease to St. John's, and was much required, as the population in this neighbourhood has greatly increased during the last few years. In size it measures seventy-four feet four inches in length, and forty-five feet eight inches in breadth. It is an extremely neat and well-proportioned building, and the interior is fitted up with great taste. It is also furnished with an extensive burying-ground.—*Northern Advertiser.* [A correspondent has favoured us with the following particulars:—Inside dimensions, 62 feet 6 inches long, 40 feet 8 inches wide, and 28 feet 6 inches high. Sittings on the ground floor, 362: gallery, 338: total 700, (of which 126 are free). Total cost of the building, including gas apparatus, &c., £1,423 9s. 5½d. The style adopted is of the Norman character; and although studiously plain, it has an harmonious and neat effect. The interior is constructed so as to contribute very much to the comfort of both speaker and hearers. The burial-ground, which has been recently laid out in an appropriate manner, under the direction of Mr. Andrew Oliver, the architect for the chapel, gives to the sacred edifice a solemn and agreeable effect; and the ground, thus combined, is rendered a very suitable place of sepulture for the dead.]

DURHAM COUNTY COAL COMPANY.

Newcastle, Sept. 5th, 1841.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—On my return home, I observe with no small astonishment your Report of the proceedings of the meeting of the Durham County Coal Company with reference to myself. As you have thought proper to publish these proceedings, you will not, I am sure, withhold from me the opportunity of vindicating myself through the same medium. I shall confine myself to a simple statement of the facts bearing on the matter, and referred to at the meeting. My absence from that meeting, I would just say, was unavoidable, or the Rev. Gentleman who took such a conspicuous part at the meeting would not have had quite so much his own way.

Before the meeting, I received a notice from the said Rev. Gentleman, saying that he intended, at the meeting to be held on the 31st of August, to propose my removal from the Direction, assigning as the only reason my being a Shareholder in and the Fitter to the Northern Coal Mining Company. Finding that other more important engagements would prevent my attending the meeting on the 31st, I placed in the hands of the Chairman at the last Directors' meeting, previous to the 31st, a letter resigning my office as Director, of which the following is a copy:—

Stoukton, Aug. 23d, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—I find that an impression has gone abroad, amongst the shareholders of the Company, that I am in some way connected with the parties who sold the collieries to the Company, and consequently am opposed to any legal proceedings against those men to recover what is

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justly due from them to the Company for nonfulfilment of contracts, and that, therefore, I ought not to have a seat at the Board of Directors. Therefore I do hereby resign my Directorship, this being the last regular Directors' meeting previous to the general meeting, and which will afford the Directors an opportunity of selecting some one more suitable for the office.

I must, however, before I conclude, most positively deny the charge brought against me. Indeed, I cannot imagine how such an idea can be entertained by those who know the extent of my interest in the Company. I regret that I shall not be able to attend the general meeting on the 31st inst., but it is my intention to write a letter to be read at that meeting, on the subject of the future management of the Company.

I remain, yours respectfully,
THOMAS C. GIBSON.

To the Chairman of the Directors of the Durham County Coal Company.

And stating, at the same time, that my sole reason for so doing was that I could not be present at the meeting on the 31st, and would not allow any discussion to take place on such a motion, when I was not present to defend myself. At the urgent request of all the Directors then present, and who expressed their unwillingness to lose my services as a Director, I consented to remain in office, provided that the motion of the Rev. Gentleman was not brought forward; but for the reason I have before stated, that I would not allow any discussion to proceed during my absence.

In the event of the motion being persisted in by that gentleman, my resignation was to be final and *unconditional*. I am therefore exceedingly surprised that the motion should have been allowed to proceed, and that *other* grounds of complaint should have been introduced by the Rev. Gentleman, as well as the one stated in his letter—as in my absence there were no means of reply. I am not an *original* shareholder in the Durham County Coal Company, neither am I in the Northern Coal Mining Company, nor had I one tittle of interest in any one colliery, directly or indirectly, sold to either of these Companies. I did not become a shareholder in the Durham County Coal Company until it had been established two years. I now hold about 500 shares—nearly one-tenth of the whole Company; and I believe equal to, if not more in number and value, than the Rev. Gentleman's and all his parishioners who voted with him on the occasion. It was not until I had been asked many times, that I consented to stand as Director; but I really do think it a hardship, with the large interest I hold in the Company, on any such grounds as those stated by the Rev. Gentleman, to be excluded from the management altogether. The chief circumstances, however, to which the Rev. Gentleman referred (and but for which Mr. Leeman, the seconder of his motion, stated that he would have opposed it,) was that I had purchased from the Northern Coal Mining Company part of the five-quarter seam at Cragwood, which they assume to have been improperly alienated from the Durham County Coal Company. My answer to any charge founded on this circumstance is brief and simple. At the time when I made the purchase of the Northern Coal Mining Company, I was not a Director in either of the Companies, but a large shareholder in both; and it was only after repeated applications made to me by the Directors of the Northern Coal Mining Company, that I agreed to become a purchaser. Now, Sir, it is really too bad that a *bona fide* purchase, made by me of the Northern Coal Mining Company, should be made matter of accusation against me.

The Rev. Gentleman's reference to remarks reported to have been made by me at a dinner-party, I do not consider worthy of notice. I simply state facts, which cannot be gainsaid, and leave it to the public to determine whether my Rev. Friend has not gone somewhat beyond his vocation in what he has done, and whether such proceedings are calculated to promote the best interests of the Company or not. With these remarks, I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

THOMAS C. GIBSON.

EXPLOSION OF STEAM BOILERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—On the perusal of your paper of the 3d ult., I observed a letter from Josiah Parkes, Esq., headed "Explosion of Steam Boilers," which caused me to go again to Derwent Crook, and examine the boiler for the third time; so that mistakes might be corrected, as to the probable origin of the explosion; for I cannot imagine how any person can decide upon the *true* cause of the explosion, without *inspecting* the boiler. The cause cannot be known from the common phrases, "The boiler has burst," or "The boiler has exploded."

I think it would be of very great importance to gentlemen who take an interest therein, but are at a distance, and cannot personally examine the boiler, were the coroner, when he holds his inquest in such cases, to cite some qualified persons to decide, whether the explosion had taken place by means of *internal* or *external* pressure. Internal pressure causes what is called a *burst*: that is, a flying open, a flying asunder by force of steam. External pressure is the weight of the superincumbent atmosphere—which is in round numbers 15lb. upon the square inch, or 2,160lb. upon the square foot. This operates suddenly upon a close vessel, when the air is extracted, or when the steam within is condensed, or when the gases within are ignited, and a vacuum is formed. When this takes place, part of the metal is bent (or rolled) inwards. Sometimes the lateral faces of flues, which are in some boilers, are pressed together, and we have what is called a collapse. So if any part of the metal is forced inwards, it cannot be from internal, but from external pressure.

By such an investigation, the true cause of an explosion may be obtained. For whatever the cause may result from, there are only two actions. If the persons appointed to examine the boiler were to decide that the explosion had taken place by means of internal pressure, for they could discover no symptoms of any external force, then there might be some blame attached to the engineer; because he must have had sufficient warning, both by the pressure upon the boiler, and the rapid movement of the engine; but when the explosion takes place from external pressure, there is very seldom any warning given—it is the very reverse of the other—for just before the explosion takes place, the engineer finds he cannot get steam to work the engine (because the water is absent from the bottom), and he has recourse to stirring up his fire; and all of a sudden, the boiler arises from its seat into the air, and then explodes, the engineer frequently losing his life by the catastrophe.

I have to remark here, that all the boilers which I have inspected after explosions have taken place, have given proofs that there was less pressure within than without; and almost in every case there were two actions. The cause of this was, that when the first charge of gas was ignited by the electric spark, and when the bottom was sufficiently strong to withstand the first charge, but was driven inwards by the superincumbent atmosphere, operating upon the vacuum caused by the ignition of the gas, then a second charge of gas is instantly generated upon the highly-heated metal, caused by the ignition of the first charge of gas during the boiler's ascension. A second ignition takes place, which sends the metal outwards in pieces, with great violence, and the boiler falls to the ground. This last action is what has deceived many, and made them cling to the old notion that it was the force of steam, whereas it was the pressure of gas.

I hope some of your worthy correspondents, who advocate that steam and sediment are the cause of steam-boiler explosions, will solve the following queries by their theory:—

1. What was it that made the boiler at the Breckenbeds pit leave its seat—ascend to a height of from thirty to forty feet—and then explode, when the bottom fell in pieces, but the body of the boiler came down uninjured?

2. Why was the bottom of the boiler impelled inwards with such great violence, at the very instant (it is said or supposed) the steam was generating so rapidly, and raging with such power within, that no number of valves could relieve it?

3. Why was it that no part of the boiler was ruptured but the bottom, which was pressed inwards, until the whole broke off, leaving only a flange of about ten inches broad, which also was bent inwards, and up against the inside, just as if it had been laid upon an anvil, and the sledge-hammer applied?

4. Why was it that no part of the boiler was oxidized (or burnt) below the leak, which was about three feet and a half above the bottom? This leak was in the side of the boiler, a little below the covering in of the flue. When the water happened to get below this part, it was then exposed to the action of the furnace, which had burnt the metal so very thin that it had parted asunder, and appeared to have been open for some length of time.

5. Why was it that all the space above the leak, both the sides and the dome, had been red-hot, as may still be seen? The packing both of the steam and water pipe was consumed

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by the flame, and any person accustomed to see hot metal plates cool, cannot have any doubt in his mind upon the subject.

Equally worthy of notice is the boiler which lately exploded at Wallsend, which was of the same construction as that at the Breckenbeds pit, and of about the same dimensions—both "hay-stack" boilers. They were about eleven feet and a half in diameter, and in depth about eight feet. They both rose to about the same height, and went to about the same distance from their seat. The Wallsend boiler had some leaks in the bottom, but only part of it was forced inwards and ruptured. There was no doubt about the bottom and part of the sides having been red-hot, notwithstanding there was from three to four feet of water in the boiler—which had been driven up into the steam reservoir. There was a rupture made in the side by the fall, but no indication of a burst. In this case the gas was ignited below the water—whereas in the boiler at Derwent Crook the ignition took place above the water.

I can have no difficulty in answering the above queries, but I wish to know how steam and mud can cause such circumstances; for when sediment has settled upon the bottom of any of the boilers which I have had to do with, my difficulty was in obtaining steam to work the engine, with a very great waste of fuel, mud being a bad conductor of caloric. Instead of coming off in cakes, as has been said, it required the chisel to cut it off, until I discovered a composition which prevented the sediment from adhering to the metal. Then, after three months' work, I had only to wash out the boiler, and give it a new coating, by which I got free of all further trouble with mud.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

No. 7, Blenheim-street, JOHN C. DOUGLAS.

Newcastle, Aug. 27, 1841.

GATESHEAD FELL DAHLIA SHOW, open to the Amateurs and Gentlemen's Gardeners of Durham and the adjoining Counties.

PRESIDENT.

THOMAS WILSON, Esq., Fell House.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

THOMAS SOWERBY, Esq.—JAMES SMITH, Esq.

The above EXHIBITION will be held on MONDAY, Sept. 27, in the LECTURE-ROOM of the newly-erected PUBLIC BUILDING, Low Fell, being the first Opening of the same.

The doors will be opened at 8 o'clock in the morning, when Competitors and their Assistants only will be admitted. All arrangements to be completed by 12 o'clock, for the admission of the Judges.

The Public Morning Exhibition will commence at 2, and close at 4 o'clock. The Evening Exhibition and Promenade will open at 6, and close at 10 o'clock. Admission, 6d. each time, by ticket only. Children under 14 years of age, half-price. Tickets to be had of the Secretaries.

ROBERT HETHERINGTON, } Secs.
THOMAS NIELSON, }

☞ A Violin Band will attend the Evening Exhibition.

The Dean and Chapter of Durham have thrown open to the public the whole of the Cathedral, (with the exception of the chapel of the nine altars,) for the purpose of enabling them to view the building, monuments, &c. During what are termed the six summer months, the cathedral will be open from ten o'clock in the forenoon till five in the afternoon; and during the other six, from ten to twelve in the morning and three to five in the afternoon. This praiseworthy proceeding has been adopted at the suggestion of a Parliamentary Committee.

GATESHEAD FELL PUBLIC SCHOOL, LIBRARY, AND LECTURE ROOM.

THE Committee of the Subscribers and Shareholders in this undertaking, in congratulating the public on the near completion of the building, feel regret in stating, at the same time, that the funds at present available fall short of the sum requisite to discharge the total amount which will be shortly due to the contractor. The immense benefits which cannot fail to be derived by the large and industrious population of the district, the Committee trust, will not plead in vain with the friends of education and social improvement in the North of England. The following are the names of the Shareholders and Subscribers to the Institution:—

	Shares.	Donations.
Thomas Wilson, Esq.	30	£20 0 0
Cuthbert Ellison, Esq.		25 0 0
W. Hutt, Esq., M.P.		25 0 0
The Right Rev. the Bishop of Durham		10 10 0
Rev. W. Atkinson	10	5 0 0
The Right Hon. the Countess of Durham		5 5 0
Mr. Thomas Sowerby	10	5 0 0
Mr. W. H. Brockett	10	
Mr. James Smith	10	10 0 0
Mr. Thomas Liddell	10	
Mr. Robert Hetherington	10	
Mr. Matthew Forster	10	
Mr. Robert Robson	10	
Mr. Joseph Smith	10	5 0 0
Mr. John Phillips	10	
Mr. Daniel Robson	10	5 0 0
Mr. Robert Robson	10	5 0 0
Messrs. Kell & Apedaile	10	5 0 0
Mr. Joshua Johnson	10	
Mr. John Grace	10	
Mr. Robert Davis	10	
Mr. Thomas Neilson, sen.	5	
Mr. John Neilson	5	
Mr. Edward Neilson	5	
Mr. Thomas Neilson, jun.	5	
Mr. Nicholas Walker	5	
Mr. Thomas Ferguson	5	
Mr. John Cuthbert	5	
Mr. John Ford	5	
Mr. Henry Robson	5	
Mr. John Wright	5	
Mr. John Marshall	5	
Mr. George Thornborough	5	
Mr. Joseph Reed Wilson	5	
Messrs. Clarke & Dunn	5	
Mr. John Geldard	5	
Mr. William Rowntree	5	2 0 0
Mr. Joseph Cout		5 0 0
Rev. John Collinson, Lamesley	5	
Mr. Joseph Snaith	5	
Mr. William Robson	5	
Mr. Samuel Kent	5	
Mr. William Barkus, sen.	5	
Mr. William Barkus, jun.	5	
Mr. William Parkinson	5	
Mr. George Bagnall	5	
Mr. Thomas Barnes	5	
Mr. John Boggin	5	
Mr. Edmund Graham	5	
Mr. William Kell	5	
Mrs. C. Gray	5	
Miss Jane Williamson	5	
Mrs. Thompson	4	
Mr. Joseph Gardner	2	
Messrs. M. & J. Renwick	2	
Messrs. Richardson & Coxon	2	
Mr. Thomas J. Proctor	2	
Mr. Nicholas C. Hetherington	1	
Mr. Robert Gisburne	1	
Mr. James Hedley	1	
Mr. Richard Kirk	1	
Mr. John Tate	1	
Mr. John Pescod	1	
Mr. Thomas Coulson	1	
Mrs. Barkus	1	
Mr. George Ismay	1	
Mr. Charles Pearson	1	
Mr. Jonas Pickering	1	
Mr. Thomas Wilson, jun.		5 0 0
Mr. Benjamin Grey		5 0 0
Mr. Thomas Hewitt		5 0 0
Mr. William Andrew		5 0 0
Mr. Joshua Greene		5 0 0
Proprietors of the *Gateshead Observer*		5 0 0
Sundries, per Mr. James Smith		2 15 0
Mr. John Coulson		2 0 0
Mr. Thomas Swinburne		2 0 0
Mr. Peter Hansen, sen.		1 1 0
Mr. George Stokoe		1 1 0
Mr. Samuel Stokoe, jun.		1 1 0
Mr. John Greene		1 1 0
Mr. John Davidson		1 1 0
Mr. W. Lockey Harle		1 0 0
Mr. Samuel Stokoe, sen.		1 0 0
Mr. Jonathan Robson		1 0 0
Mr. William Coxwell		1 0 0
	363	178 15 0
Shares, at £1 each		363 0 0
		£541 15 0

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Donations, or Subscriptions for Shares, will be received by Mr Thos. Ferguson, the Secretary, Mr. Thomas Wilson, Mr. Thomas Sowerby, Mr. W. H. Brockett, or Mr. James Smith.

Gateshead Fell, Aug. 25 1841.

GATESHEAD UNION—CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS, CLOTHING, CLOTHING MATERIALS, &c.—The Board of Guardians of this Union hereby give notice, that at their Meeting to be held in the Board-room, High-street, Gateshead, on Tuesday, the 21st day of September 1841, they will receive tenders for supplying the Union with the following articles, to be delivered at the Gateshead Union Workhouse, for the next six months commencing on Saturday, 25th of September, 1841, viz:—

PROVISIONS, &c.

Bread made of the best Seconds Flour, in loaves or buns, as may be required, at per 4 lb.
Bread made of Thirds Flour, or Maslin, sweet and sound at per 4 lb. loaf.
Best Fine Flour, per sack of 20 stones.
Best Scotch Oatmeal, ditto
SKIMMED MILK at per gallon.
Raw Sugar, per cwt.
Soap, per ditto
Soda, per ditto
Salt, per ditto
Candles, Dips, per doz. lb.
Good Congou Tea, per lb.
Roasted Coffee per ditto
Black Pepper, per lb.
Treacle, per stone
Butcher Meat—To consist of Rounds and Flanks of best Ox or Heifer Beef, Houghs full cut and Sloats without the shank, and best Wether Mutton, in legs and loins, per st. The Weekly demand about 12 stones.
Coals unscreened, per chaldron
Ditto ⅔ screened per ditto

CLOTHING.

MEN, YOUTHS, AND BOYS.

Striped Shirts
Moleskin Jackets
Waistcoats lined with cotton, and Trowsers unlined.
Blue Kersey Jackets, Waistcoats, and Trowsers
Kersey Drawers, yarn Stockings
Hats, Boys' Caps

WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Blue Flannel Petticoats
Blue Harn Aprons
Unbleached ditto
Cotton Handkerchiefs
Straw Bonnets, Linen Caps
Shoes.

CLOTHING MATERIALS.

White and Blue Flannel
Blue Kersey
Moleskin
Bed Ticking
Striped Cotton
Checked ditto, for Aprons
Blue Harn
Blankets, per pair
Striped and Brown Jersey
Strong White Linen
Grey Sheeting
White, Grey, and Black Calico
Blue Print
Rugs, Double Diaper
Coloured Counterpanes
Black and Coloured Yarn, per lb.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Clerk, at the Gateshead Union Office, will be received until one o'clock on Thursday the 23d of September, 1841.

The groceries to be tendered by samples; the clothing materials by pattern, with prices ticketed; and the ready-made clothing, and other articles of wear, according to pattern of each, deposited for Inspection at the Gateshead Workhouse.

Each party whose tender may be accepted must be prepared (if required) to give security for the due fulfilment of the contract. By order of the Board of Guardians,

Gateshead Union Office, Sept. 7, 1841. WM. ROWNTREE, Clerk to the Union.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

AT the GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING of the Society, held this Day,

T. E. HEADLAM, M.D., Vice-President, in the Chair,

It was unanimously resolved, upon the Motion of Dr. Headlam, seconded by A. Donkin, Esq.,

That a special Meeting of this Society be held on Tuesday, the 21st Day of September instant, at one o'clock, to consider the best Means of paying a Tribute of Respect to the Rev. William Turner on his leaving Newcastle, for his long and valuable Services to this Institution, and as one of its original Founders.

JOHN ADAMSON, J. T. BROCKETT, } Secretaries.

Newcast'e on Tyne, 7th Sept., 1841.

ORDINATION.

THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM will hold an Ordination at Auckland Castle, on Sunday, the 19th day of December next.

Candidates for Holy Orders are requested to send their requisite papers (prepaid) to Joseph Davison, Esq., Register Office, Durham, on or before Monday, the 1st day of November next.

Auckland Castle, Sept. 8th, 1841.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

THE EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS and SCULPTURE in the SOCIETY'S ROOMS, in Market street, is now OPEN from NINE in the Morning till DUSK.

Admission, Sixpence—Catalogues, Sixpence each.

Season Tickets, Two-and Sixpence, to be had at the Rooms.

T. M. GREENHOW, WM. LOCKEY HARLE, } Secretaries.

Newcastle upon Tyne, 1st Sept., 1841.

ELECTION FOR THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

NOTICE is hereby given, that EDWARD ERASTUS DEACON and PERCIVAL ANDREE PICKERING, Esquires, the Barristers appointed to Revise the Lists of Voters for the Borough of Gateshead, will hold Courts for that purpose at GATESHEAD, on Tuesday, the 28th day of September instant, at the TOWN HALL, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

And all Town Clerks, Overseers of the Poor, and others executing the duties of Overseers for every Parish, Township and Place within the said Borough, are hereby summoned and required to attend at the opening of the said Courts, and then and there to produce all Lists, Rates, and other Documents in their custody, pursuant to the provisions of the Statute in that behalf. And all Persons, having anything to do at any of the said Courts, are hereby summoned and required to give their attendance at the time and place above-mentioned.

E. E. DEACON,
P. A. PICKERING.

Dated this 6th day of Sept. 1841.

The Timber Trade.—The extremely depressed state of the timber trode, at the present moment, furnishes a convincing proof of the insufficiency even of the highest protecting duties to preserve particular interests in a state of prosperity, whilst the country generally is suffering. The decline in the price of most descriptions of timber has been from 20 to 25 per cent. This, we believe, is entirely owing to the cessation of building throughout the kingdom, which is always a certain and immediate consequence of public distress. The present miserably low rate of freights to all parts of the world, besides depreciating the value of ship property already in existence, also acts most injuriously on the timber trade and on shipbuilding. We have already alluded to the depressed state of shipping; and we may add that, although there is no interest in the kingdom of more importance than this, there is none which is more heavily pressed upon by impolitic legislation The duties on all descriptions of timber greatly enhance the cost of building British ships; the duties on corn and provisions add greatly to the expense of navigating them; and the exclusion of foreign corn, except by fits and starts, deprives the British shipowner of the carriage of a bulky article, greatly needed in this country, and to be obtained in greater or smaller quantities in all those ports from which there is at present the greatest difficulty in procuring cargoes. Under these circumstances there can be no wonder that the timber trade is depressed, and that the protecting duties on colonial timber, high as they are, have altogether failed to keep it in a state of prosperity.—*Liverpool Times.*

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THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

CABINET MINISTERS.

The Duke of Wellington	Without office.
Sir Robert Peel	First Lord of the Treasury.
Lord Lyndhurst	Lord Chancellor.
Right Hon. H. Goulburn	Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Lord Wharncliffe	President of the Council.
Duke of Buckingham	Privy Seal.
Sir James Graham	Home Secretary.
Earl of Aberdeen	Foreign Secretary.
Lord Stanley	Colonial Secretary.
Earl of Haddington	First Lord of the Admiralty.
Lord Ellenborough	President of Board of Controul.
Earl of Ripon	President of Board of Trade.
Sir Henry Hardinge	Secretary at War.
Sir E. Knatchbull	Paymaster-General.

NOT OF THE CABINET.

Lord Lowther	Postmaster-General.
Lord G. Somerset	Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster.
Earl of Lincoln	Woods and Forests.
Sir George Murray	Master General of the Ordnance.
W. E. Gladstone	Vice President of Board of Trade. Master of the Mint.
Hon. Sidney Herbert	Secretary of the Admiralty.
Sir G. Clerk	Joint-Secretaries of the Treasury.
Sir T. Fremantle	Joint-Secretaries of the Treasury.
Hon. W. Baring	Secretaries of Board of Control.
T. Emerson Tennant	Secretaries of Board of Control.
Hon. C. M. Sutton	Home Under-Secretary.
Lord Canning	Foreign Under-Secretary.
G. W. Hope	Colonial Under-Secretary.
Alexander Pringle	Lords of the Treasury.
H. Baring	Lords of the Treasury.
J. Young	Lords of the Treasury.
J. Milnes Gaskell	Lords of the Treasury.
Sir G Cockburn	Lords of the Admiralty.
Admiral Sir W. Gage	Lords of the Admiralty.
Sir G. Seymour	Lords of the Admiralty.
Hon. Capt. Gordon	Lords of the Admiralty.
Hon. H. L. Corry	Lords of the Admiralty.
F. R. Bonham	Storekeeper of the Ordnance.
Capt. Boldero	Clerk of the Ordnance.
Col. Jonathan Peel	Surveyor-General of the Ordnance.
Col. Percival	Sergeant-at Arms.
Sir Frederick Pollock	Attorney-General.
Sir William Follett	Solicitor-General
Dr. Nicholl	Judge-Advocate.
Sir C. Bagot	Governor General of Canada.
Sir W. Rae	Lord Advocate of Scotland.
Duncan M'Neill	Solicitor General of Scotland.
Earl de Grey	Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.
Sir E. Sugden	Lord Chancellor of Ireland.
Lord Eliot	Chief Secretary of Ireland.
—— Blackburne	Attorney General of Ireland.
Sergeant Jackson	Solicitor General of Ireland.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

Earl Delawarr	Lord Chamberlain.
Earl of Liverpool	Lord Steward.
Earl of Jersey	Master of the Horse.
Earl of Rosslyn	Master of the Buckhounds.
Marquis of Lothian	Captain of Yeomen of the Guard.
Lord Forester	Captain of Gentlemen Pensioners.
Lord C. Wellesley	Chief Equerry and Clerk Marshal.
Col. Arbuthnot	Equerry in Ordinary.
Lord Ernest Bruce	Vice-Chamberlain.
Earl Jermyn	Treasurer of the Household.
Hon. Dawson Damer	Comptroller of the Household.
Lord Aboyne	Lords in Waiting.
Lord Rivers	Lords in Waiting.
Lord Hardwicke	Lords in Waiting.
Lord Byron	Lords in Waiting.
Earl of Warwick	Lords in Waiting.
Viscount Sidney	Lords in Waiting.
Earl of Morton	Lords in Waiting.
Marquis of Ormonde	Lords in Waiting.
R. Ormsby Gore	Groom in Waiting.
Marchioness Camden	Ladies of the Bedchamber.
Lady Lyttelton	Ladies of the Bedchamber.
Lady Portman	Ladies of the Bedchamber.
Lady Barham	Ladies of the Bedchamber.
Countess of Charlemont	Ladies of the Bedchamber.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

SKETCHES OF THE NEW QUEEN'S COUNSEL.

(From the *Liverpool Albion*, Sept. 13.)

MR. WORTLEY is, so far as we can judge, a gentleman of extensive attainments, both legal and general, possessing a clear head, solid judgment, and a vigorous, masculine mind. From his reliance on his strong intellect and his legal lore, he has most perfect self-possession. As plaintiff's counsel he states a case to a jury with a condensed accuracy which at once renders them master of so much of it as he deems it expedient to develop. He speaks with remarkable propriety, and urges the claim of his client, if not with energy, with a quiet, classical elegance of diction and manner infinitely persuasive. His temper appears to be imperturbable; for, whether in argument with an opposing counsel, in the cross-examination of a refractory witness, or in an appeal to the jury against what he deems the unfairness of an adversary, never can a ripple be detected on the surface of his equanimity. Even the petulant airs, and frequent frivolous objections and interruptions of Mr. Cresswell, fail to ruffle him in the least degre. On one occasion, during the recent assizes, the M.P. for Liverpool, after in vain trying to put aside some evidence which Mr. Wortley was tendering, threw himself into his seat in a pet, with an exclamation expressive of the annoyance which he was compelled to endure. Mr. Wortley made no reply, but, addressing the Judge, said, smilingly, "My friend is a very ill-used man, my lord: he has been a most ill-used man for the last seven years." Mr. Cresswell curled his lip, and telegraphed the jury, according to custom, as if to ask them if they did not think the remark puerile but theat as well as the Judge and the auditory, laughed heartilyty, he cool rebuke, notwithstanding.

Mr. KNOWLES is a steady and skilful advocate, and an excellent lawyer. He has, by the abilities which he has displayed in the management of many intricate and perplexed cases, forced upon the most respectable solicitors of the circuit a very high opinion of his powers. He possesses a sound judgment, quick and clear perceptions, and evinces consummate skill in his conduct of the most difficult and entangled cases. He takes intense pains to render himself master of every circumstance that has led to the action, so that no point of advantage may escape his own attention, or be made available by his adversary. When he rises to address the jury, he is, therefore, in possession of every detail that can make for or against his client; and his cool and excellent judgment tells him what main circumstances it is necessary for the jury to know, and what collateral ones it will be proper to keep out of view, as only tending to perplex, while they do not immediately affect the issue. If wanted, they are at hand, and can be squeezed from the witnesses as occasion may require. Armed with all the facts, even to the most minute features of the case, his statements are always clear and perspicuous. He deals in no needless flourishes, indulges in no remarks or indiscriminate invectives, which are too often turned to advantage by an adroit adversary, nor ever hazards an assertion that he is not perfectly confident of fully substantiating by evidence. In this he shows great discretion. Frequently, an advocate, urged by the heat of his client, will indulge in insinuations, or make direct imputations as to motives, which are naturally repelled by the other party, and which, turning out fallacious, generally awake the sympathies of the jury, and cause them to conceive that the whole statement would, if probed to the bottom, prove equally destitute of foundation. In this and other respects Mr. Knowles is remarkably discreet. He never presses a witness too far. Having gained his point, he seems to remember the admonition of the witches to Macbeth, "Seek to know no more." It is sufficient that he has got what he requires: a question too many frequently begets a disclosure which jeopardizes a cause. In a defence the clearness of his intellect and the acuteness of his perception do him good service. He husbands all the weak points of the plaintiff's case, and, having laid them before the jury, he proceeds to expatiate calmly upon them, till he magnifies each little hole into a formidable rent, and, having thus reduced the texture to tatters, he proceeds to repair it with facts favourable to his client, and then to colour it according to his instructions. In courts of law, as in other places, one tale always seem good till another is told. Mr. Knowles not merely tells his tale, but he does his best to spoil that of his opponent. As a speaker, he is not eloquent, but he has a smooth and even delivery, a good style, and a regular and ready flow of ideas and words. With him, every thing is easy, nothing laboured, and the jury can never have the slightest difficulty in comprehending his meaning, so perfect is his arrangement and so clear are his expositions. His career has been exceedingly rapid; and, as he is but young at the bar, and is even now on the rise, and, of course, every year improving, we look to see him arrive at great eminence and consideration.

Mr. DUNDAS, with more energy and sprightliness than either of the above-named gentlemen, has less coolness and a less ready flow of language. He is an elegant scholar, and possesses a highly-refined, well-cultivated, and vigorous mind. In

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pleading a cause, he seems occasionally oppressed with the multitude of his ideas. As a speaker he is slow, but impressive, sometimes highly energetic and effective, and not unfrequently pleasant and witty. He has a large fund of originality, which he can draw upon at pleasure, and he thus contrives to throw a grace over the most dry and tedious details. By his agreeable and gentlemanly manners, and the pleasant style of his addresses, he wins greatly upon a jury, His mode of examining witnesses is excellent, and somewhat peculiar. He never insults them, but behaves to them in all respects with the dignified consideration of a gentleman. Should they be stubborn, as witnesses frequently are, he does not add to their rigidity by putting them out of temper, but he rather seeks to render them flexible by example; and by bending courteously to them, he frequently makes them bend to him. He addresses them all smiles and good-nature, pays them witty compliments, and, with the most insinuating courtesy, perseveres till they cannot resist so kind and sweet-tempered a gentleman. If the witness be naturally stupid (no rare occurrence), he pursues the same method, and rarely have we seen him fail to elicit a straightforward series of replies.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
Abbot, John	Cout, Joseph	p Hymers, Jas.	Rowntree, W.
p Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	p Kenmir, Wm.	p Sowerby, G.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	p Lister, John	p Swan, Walker
Hall, Michael	Fairbairn, J.	Potts, John	p Wight, John
p Pollock, James	Forster, S.	p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph
p Wilson, Thos.			

[Those marked p were present.]

THE Council met on Wednesday, September 15.

Mr. ROBSON (in the absence of the Town Clerk) read the minutes of the last meeting.

Certain proceedings of the Watch Committee were read and approved, on the motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Ald. Wilson—and it was ordered that when quays are removed in future, the whole space between the houses and the footpaths shall be flagged to the satisfaction of the Footpath Committee.

Copies of the borough accounts, printed, were laid upon the table.

The death of Mr. Joseph Cout, Councillor of the South Ward was reported, and it was stated that Ald. Hall had fixed the 20th inst. for the election of a successor.

It was also reported that the following Aldermen will go out of office this year:—Ald. Abbot, Pollock, and Wilson; and the following Councillors:—Messrs. James Hymers and John Lister, for the East Ward; Messrs. Thomas Cummins and William Kenmir, for the West Ward; and Messrs. William Rowntree and John Wight, for the South Ward. The Council then separated.

PROJECTED RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER TYNE.

TO THE PUBLIC.—Having projected and laid down the Line of the Brandling Junction Railway, from Gateshead to South Shields and Sunderland, I stated in the Prospectus that it would require a Bridge across the Tyne, and a Railway to a Depot, in the Western Part of Newcastle, before the Communication by Railway between the East and West Seas would be generally Advantageous to the Inhabitants of the District through which the line passes, and to the Country at large.

Soon after this I directed a Survey to be made of a Line, crossing from Gateshead, near the Western Extremity of Green's Field, and passing through the Ground contiguous to Messrs. Stephenson's Manufactory into the Forth; but upon further Consideration I was convinced that the Interest of the Inhabitants of the District, as well as the Public Convenience required that the principal Station of all the North-eastern Lines of Railway should be brought more into the Centre of Newcastle. Acting upon this Conviction I have had a general Plan and Section prepered, to which I request the Attention of all who feel that it is peculiarly Incumbent upon the Inhabitants of Newcastle and Gateshead, at the present Moment, to use every Exertion to have the principal Terminus of the great Eastern Lines from the Metropolis fixed in the best possible Situation.

A slight Inspection of the Plans (which are deposited at Mr. EMERSON CHARNLEY'S), will, I trust, show that I have endeavoured to accomplish this great Public Object, with the least possible Injury to private Property. The advantages of the Castle Garth, as a Passenger Station, are too obvious to require being pointed out, and the minor Details of the projected Work will require future and lengthened Discussions, but I wish it to be clearly understood, that I do not contemplate that this great Undertaking can be accomplished except by a distinct Bridge Company, dependent for its Revenue upon a moderate Pontage upon both the Bridges and the Railway Viaduct, to which Arrangement, considering the Importance of the Objects to be attained, I am sanguine enough to hope there will not be any material Objection.

ROBERT WILLIAM BRANDLING.

Gosforth, September 16, 1841.

NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE Society will hold their ANNUAL SHOW of LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS of HUSBANDRY, &c., in the Bull Park, Newcastle, *on Thursday, the 23rd of September*, when the PREMIUMS, as previously advertised, will be awarded by the Judges—the Competition being open to Stock from all parts of the United Kingdom:—

The time of receiving the entries of stock of all descriptions, is extended to Tuesday evening the 21st inst., and all persons desirous of entering stock are requested to address their applications, directed to the Secretary, at the Courant Office, Newcastle.

The stock is required to be upon the Show Ground, in the Bull Park, Barras Bridge, by nine o'clock in the morning. Visitors will be admitted at 10 o'clock.

The dinner will take place at 3 o'clock precisely, in the Cornmarket, which has been splendidly fitted up to accommodate 1,000 persons; and parties intending to dine are requested to take notice that Tickets will be issued by Mr. CARRY, on and after SATURDAY MORNING NEXT, in a shop adjoining the Half-Moon Inn, Bigg-market; where seats may be secured between the hours of 10 and 3 o'clock.

A special Train will leave the Newcastle Station for Carlisle at nine o'clock.

Parties wishing to sit together must make early application.

J. C. JOBLING, Esq., of Newton Hall, in the Chair.

VICE-CHAIRMEN.

The MAYOR of NEWCASTLE.
J. H. HINDE, Esq., M.P.
W. ORD, Esq., M.P.
Sir E. BLACKETT, of Matfen, Bart.
The Rev. J. S. OGLE, of Kirkley.

GODFREY SINCLAIR, Secretary.

The Committee earnestly request that the Members of the Society will send to the Secretary the Amount of their respective Subscriptions as soon as possible; and every year in future on or about the 1st of February, when they become due.

Barrow House, Wooler, 15th Sept., 1841.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

ELECTION OF A COUNCILLOR FOR THE SOUTH WARD.

I, MICHAEL HALL, Esquire, Alderman of the South Ward in the said Borough, do hereby GIVE NOTICE, that I have appointed TUESDAY, the 21st day of September instant, at the National School Room, Kell's-lane, in the said Ward, for the Election of a Councillor for the said Ward, in the room and place of Mr. Joseph Cout, deceased, who died on or about the 12th instant; and that the Voting will commence at Nine o'clock in the Morning, and will finally close at Four o'clock in the Afternoon of the same day; but the Presiding Officer has power to close the Poll at any time before Four o'clock, if One Hour shall have elapsed during which no Vote shall have been tendered for any Candidate.

Each Burgess is entitled to Vote by delivering to the Presiding Officer a Voting Paper, containing the Christian Name and Sur-name of the Person for whom he Votes, with his place of abode and description, such Paper being previously signed with the name of the Burgess voting, and with the name of the street, lane, or other place, in which the property for which he appears to be rated on the Burgess Roll is situated.

MICHAEL HALL, Alderman.

Gateshead Fell, Sept. 14, 1841.

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Mr. John Todd, of Bellevue, has subscribed for ten shares, and Mr. John Todd, jun., for five shares in the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms; and the Rev. Joseph M'Alister has made a donation of £1 to the same institution.

The Bazaar at Sunderland, which was opened on Tuesday, for the benefit of the new church at Seaham Harbour, has answered the expectations of its friends, the attendance being crowded, and the receipts liberal. The sums taken on Tuesday and Wednesday were as follows:—

	Tuesday.		Wednesday.
The Marchioness of Londonderry, Lord Seaham, Lord Ward, Lord Edward Hill, the Ladies Vane, Mrs. Cresswell, and Mrs. Surtees	£310 13 0	..	£320 19 2
Lady Dungannon and Miss Wynn	40 0 0	..	26 1 4
Lady Rendlesham and Misses Thelluson	18 10 0	..	20 16 0
Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Alfred Thompson, and Misses Collinson	29 0 0	..	14 5 6
Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Henry Collinson, Mrs. James Harrison, and Miss A. Anderson	26 12 6	..	27 2 6
Taken at the door	106 0 0	..	60 0 0
	£530 15 6	..	£469 4 6
			530 15 6
Total receipts of the two days			£1,000 0 0

The sale was continued on Thursday, when £150 odd was added to the sum above-stated.

Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., of Blagdon, was married on Tuesday, Sept. 21, at Ampthill church, Bedfordshire, to Miss Cecilia Anne Parke, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Baron Parke. The Venerable Archdeacon Bayley officiated at the ceremony. Baron and Lady Parke gave an elegant *dejeune* at Ampthill Park, to a select circle. The happy bride and bridegroom, shortly after two, started for Worthing, to pass the honey-moon.

Mr. Attwood's friends having attributed the election of Lord Howick to the exercise of undue influence by Sir Hedworth Williamson in Monkwearmouth, we give the number of votes polled at each booth, as the most effectual reply to this imputation:—

Booth 1. Exchange	74	..	50
Booth 2. Assembly Room	52	..	48
Booth 3. High-street	114	..	71
Booth 4. Bridge-street	106	..	53
Booth 5. Dowell-place	109	..	93
Booth 6. School of Industry	90	..	87
Booth 7. Monkwearmouth	72	..	33
Booth 8. Monkwearmouth	90	..	26

From this table (which is partly accurate) it will be seen that Mr. Attwood was defeated *in every booth*; and that if Monkwearmouth had taken no part in the contest, Lord Howick would still have been returned by a large majority. What, then, becomes of the Tory explanation of Mr. Attwood's defeat? Besides, is it not true that Mr. Matthias Attwood solicited Sir Hedworth to give that very influence to his son Wolverly, which the innocent Tories now assert, with an affectation of horror, to have been exercised in behalf of Lord Howick?

A special meeting of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle was held on Tuesday last, in the lecture-room of the Society, to consider the best means of conferring some mark of the Society's gratitude and esteem upon the Rev. W. Turner, for the long-continued and valuable services rendered by him to the neighbourhood, in the formation and encouragement of Societies for the spread of information amongst the people. Charles William Bigge, Esq., of Linden, (who had come purposely to Newcastle to attend the meeting,) having been called to the chair, Dr. Headlam briefly, but feelingly, alluded to the long and useful life of Mr. Turner, who, as the founder of the Literary Society (the parent of many others), and as the indefatigable encourager and promoter of works of charity and usefulness in every shape, had imposed a debt of gratitude on the public, which it was not to be doubted would be generously acknowledged. It had been considered and thought most desirable that a subscription should be entered into for raising a sum of money to be presented to Mr. Turner, who was about to pass the remainder of his life in retirement with his family, at a distance from Newcastle. Dr. H. moved resolutions, in conformity with his observations; and Mr. Ald. Donkin having seconded them, they were put, and carried unanimously. Mr. W. H. Brockett moved the appointment of a committee consisting of C. W. Bigge, G. Silvertop, and A. Donkin, Esqrs., Dr. Headlam, and the Rev. J. Collinson, Rector of Boldon, for the purpose of carrying the resolutions into effect; and that Robert Boyd, Esq., be the Treasurer, and J. Adamson, Esq., the Secretary of the Committee—which was also carried unanimously; and thanks being voted to the Chairman, on the motion of Dr. Headlam, the meeting separated. Besides the movers and seconders of the resolutions, there were present at the meeting Mr. Silvertop, Mr. Blackbird, Mr. Charnley, Mr. J. T. Brockett, Mr. Greenhow, Mr. Thomas Wilson, Mr. William Boyd, Mr. G. Burnett, jun., Dr. Glover, Mr. Hutton, Mr. M. Lambert, Rev. J. M'Alister, Mr. Swan, &c.—Oct. 2.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society, (convened for the purpose of considering the propriety of concurring in opinion with the Shipowners' Societies of North and South Shields, as to the desirableness of placing the conservatorship of the Tyne in commission,) met on Tuesday last, in the hall of the Trinity House, Newcastle, (Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair,) when the communication from John Tinley, Esq., Secretary to the Shields Society, was read; but the meeting being very small, it was resolved that it should be adjourned until the 5th of October next.

A week or two ago, we directed the attention of our readers to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Medical School, as an institution likely to be of great advantage to the town and neighbourhood—not only in a professional view, but to the public generally, from the establishment of the lectureships on Mathematics and Natural Philosophy and on Geology. The gentlemen appointed to the two lectureships just mentioned, together with the lecturer on Chemistry, (as we have announced in our advertising columns,) will give their introductory lectures gratuitously, in the theatre of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle. We would advise our friends to attend these lectures, as the intention of those of Mr. King and Mr. Snape is expressly to show the nature and advantages of their several courses. Mr. Snape will lecture on Wednesday, the 29th inst., on Mathematics—their value as a mental discipline; Dr. Glover on Friday, the 1st of October, on the applications of Chemistry to Medicine; and Mr. King on Monday, the 4th of October, on Geology—its scientific and economical uses.

TO MR. J. SMITH, LOW FELL.

A Vacancy having occurred in the Council of the Borough, in consequence of the lamented Death of Mr. Joseph Coutt, we, the undersigned Burgesses, request you will allow yourself to be put in Nomination as one of the Representatives of the South Ward in the said Council.

Thomas Sowerby,	James Gray Soppet,
John Phillips,	John Edward,
Daniel Robson,	Benjamin Swalwell,
George Sowerby,	Ralph Watt,
Thomas Ferguson,	William Jobling,
John Marshall,	John Simpson,
Thomas Liddell,	Thomas Patterson,
Robert Robson,	Ephraim Patterson,
Joseph Miller,	John Patterson,
Samuel Kent,	William Dineley.
Robert Hetherington,	

Gateshead Fell, Sept. 15, 1841.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—In consequence of the lamented Death of the late Mr. JOSEPH COUTT, a Vacancy has occurred in the Town Council; and a Requisition, requesting that I would allow myself to be put in Nomination, has been handed to me this morning. I feel deeply sensible of the obligation imposed upon me, by this distinguished mark of your regard, with which I am honoured in your decision that I am a proper person to represent you in the Council. Should your continued kindness ultimately secure my Election, I shall endeavour to discharge the important duties confided to me in such a manner as to obtain your approbation.

Respectfully reminding you that the Election is fixed for Tuesday, the 21st instant,

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,
JAMES SMITH.

Henderson's-place, Low Fell, Sept. 16, 1841.

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BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

WE, the undersigned Alderman and Assessors of the South Ward of the Borough of Gateshead, having Examined the Voting Papers delivered at the Election of a Councillor, holden for the said Ward, on this 21st day of September instant, to supply the vacancy occasioned in the office of Councillor for the said Ward, by the death of Councillor Joseph Coutt, Do hereby declare, that JAMES SMITH, of Low Fell, Draper, has been duly elected a Councillor by the Burgesses of the said Ward, in the room and place of the said Joseph Coutt. As witness our hands, this twenty-first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

MICHAEL HALL, Alderman and Presiding Officer.
JOHN EDWARD, } Assessors.
EPHRAIM PATTERSON, }

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—Elected, by your unanimous suffrages, to the office of Councillor of your Ward, I take the earliest opportunity of thanking you for the honour conferred upon me. At the same time I beg to assure you of my determination to discharge the duties of the office to the utmost of my abilities, for the benefit and interest of the Borough.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES SMITH.

Henderson's-place, Low Fell, 21st Sept., 1841.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

STATEMENT of all Monies received and expended on account of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Gateshead, for the year ending the 31st of August, 1841, prepared pursuant to 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 104, sec. 10, and 1 Vic., cap. 78, sec. 43.

RECEIPTS—FROM WHAT SOURCES DERIVED.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand on the 31st August, 1840				150	10	0
RENTS, TOLLS, AND DUES.						
Edward Walker, one year's Rent of Shop at Bridge End,	30	0	0			
Stallage for July, August, and September..	3	2	1			
October, November, and December,	3	5	6			
January, February, and March,....	3	6	1			
April, May, and June,.....	3	6	1			
				42	19	9
BOROUGH RATES.						
Borough Rates charged upon that part of Heworth within the Borough, payable up to 24th January, 1841,.....	9	9	8			
Borough Rate of one half-penny in the pound on the Parish of Gateshead, payable 24th October, 1840,.....	68	2	7			
Borough Rate of one half-penny in the pound, payable 24th January, 1841,..	68	2	7			
Borough Rate of one halfpenny in the pound, payable 24th April, 1841, ...	68	2	7			
Balance of half-year's Watch Rate, due 24th June, 1840,.....	103	14	0			
Half-year's Watch Rate of threepence per pound, due 24th December, 1840,....	269	7	7			
On account of Watch Rate, due 24th June, 1841, ...	45	0	0			
				631	19	0
MISCELLANEOUS.						
John Usher, Superintendent of Police, cash received by him for the services of the Police in executing warrants and serving summons,.....	11	13	0			
Edward Walker, for Fixtures in Shop at Bridge End,.....	9	3	0			
Edward Walker, for Moiety of Cost of Lease of Shop.....	2	14	7			
				23	10	7
				£848	19	4

EXPENDITURE—FOR WHAT PURPOSES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s	d.
SALARIES, PENSIONS, AND ALLOWANCES, TO MUNICIPAL OFFICERS.						
William Kell, Town Clerk, One Year's Salary, at £80 per annum, ...	80	0	0			
Charles P. Rippon, High Constable, Two Years' Salary, at £2 2s.....	4	4	0			
				84	4	0
RENTS, RATES, TAXES, & INSURANCES.						
Thomas Easton, One Year's Rent of Town Hall and Police Offices, ...	20	10	0			
Taxes and Cesses for Town Hall and Police Offices,.....	2	12	4			
				23	2	4
POLICE AND CONSTABLES.						
For Policemen's Wages, ...	486	0	0			
J. F. Brett, for Clothes for Policemen, ..	67	17	9			
Thomas Elliott, for Boots for Policemen,	8	18	10			
Jonathan Colling & Son, for Hats for Policemen,.....	8	9	0			
Mr. Stevens, for Policemen's Capes, ...	4	1	0			
John Colman, for oil for Policemen's Lanterns,.....	7	2	0			
J. & A. Allison, for repairing Lanterns,..	1	13	0			
Mr. Smith, surgeon, for medicine and attendance on Superintendent,.....	5	0	0			
				589	1	7
REPAIRS, &c.						
E. Bell, for Iron Work at Town Hall, ..	0	12	2			
Martin Dunn, for Repairing Lock-up, ..	0	5	6			
				0	17	8
MARKETS AND FAIRS.						
Corporation of Newcastle, One Year's Ground Rent for Police Station and Shop at Bridge End,.....				5	0	0
PRINTING, ADVERTISING, STATIONERY, &c.						
J. & R. Akenhead, for Printing and Stationery,.....	16	4	10			
William Douglas, for Printing, ...	10	16	6			
Proprietors of *Gateshead Observer*, for Advertising,.....	7	18	0			
George Watson, for Stationery, ...	1	12	3			
				36	11	7
LAW EXPENSES.						
Town Clerk, for expenses attending procuring the insertion of certain clauses in the Newcastle and Gateshead Union Water Co.'s Bill, providing for Water at Fires, and repairs of damage to the Streets, and for Lease of Shop at Bridge End,.....				20	4	1
PRINCIPAL PAID OFF, AND INTEREST.						
Gateshead Street Act Commissioners' Interest on £182 transferred to Market Fund, ...				9	2	5
MISCELLANEOUS.						
Mrs. Usher, for cleaning Town Hall, ...	10	8	0			
Thomas Newton, for Coals for Town Hall,.....	7	9	6			
Joseph Fairs, poundage for collecting Watch Rate, ...	12	9	0			
Town Clerk, for payments made by him on account of the Council, as per his Cash Book,.....	12	10	2			
Receipt Stamps for Borough Rate,.....	0	2	0			
Ditto for Walker's Rent, ...	0	1	0			
				42	19	8
Balance in the Treasurer's hands,..				37	16	0
				£848	19	4

We, the Auditors of the Borough of Gateshead, have examined and audited the foregoing Accounts, and found them correct:— JOHN FAIRBAIRN, Mayor's Auditor.
C. F. SPRINGMANN, } Burgesses' Auditors.
JOHN LISTER, JUN., }

WILIAM KELL, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Gateshead, Sept. 10, 1841.

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TO THE ADMIRERS OF THE "FINE ARTS."

TO BE RAFFLED FOR, in the course of the ensuing month, (of which due notice will be given,)

THE PORTRAIT OF ALDERMAN THOMPSON,

At present in the Exchange Rooms, Sunderland—it being deemed expedient to dispense for the future with that *ornament* of the establishment.

The lots will be limited to 125, of £1 each—the proceeds to be applied to the protection of poor voters from the vengeance of disappointed bribers and unsuccessful intimidators.

Tickets to be had of Mr. J. J. Wrong, Sunderland; Mr. "Job Swain, clothier, Fleet-street;" Mr. Willis, "Steward of the *Ocean*;" Mr. Liddle, of the *Reform* Tavern, Monkwearmouth; or of any member of Mr. Attwood's committee.

Sunderland, Sept. 24, 1841.

SPLENDID AND ATTRACTIVE BAZAAR,

UNDER THE IMMEDIATE MANAGEMENT OF THE

Trustees OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY,

AND OTHER FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY.

THE success of the BAZAAR for *the relief of the Creditors* of the noble and orthodox builders of Seaham Church having been quite unprecedented,

The Trustees

OF THE MOST HONOURABLE BUILDER OF

SEAHAM HARBOUR

Feel it to be their duty to appeal to the same kind and generous public (that supported the Bazaar for the CHURCH) in behalf of the HARBOUR; and in order to carry into effect this novel and humane expedient, a BAZAAR will be held in the Long Room of THE THOMPSON'S ARMS, SUNDERLAND, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 21st and 22d of September.

The Patrons and Presents with which the Trustees have been favoured for the use of the Bazaar are too numerous to be detailed: a few specimens, however, are given below, selected from the immense collections already received:—

PATRONS—who have contributed the following CURIOSITIES.

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ADELAIDE—The Reform Bill in Needlework.

HIS MAJESTY KING ERNEST—The Constitution of Hanover, written backwards.

HIS HIGHNESS DON CARLOS—Model of the Inquisition.

HIS HIGHNESS DON MIGUEL—A Thumb-Screw.

THE EMPRESS OF CHINA—Her cast-off Slippers.

PLANTAGENET, DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM—King John's *Tooth*-drawer, the instrument by which taxes were formerly levied in England.

THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY'S LONDON PUBLISHER—Several hundred copies of the *Peninsular War*.

SIR ROBERT PEEL—A Model of the "Sliding Scale."

THE HON. H. T. LIDDELL—The Original Letter by which he was appointed "Spy" on the Wynyard Tenantry; and a copy of the Report of his Espionage which he presented to his employers.

MR. HERNAMAN—The celebrated "begging-box" of the *Journal*.

R. G. BRADDYLL, ESQ.—The Bill of Costs of his fruitless attempt as Candidate for North Durham.

THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND—Fac-similes of the celebrated "Jarvie" Smithson's Whip.

W. SHEPPARD, ESQ.—Lithographic Views of the Horsewhipping of Capt. Fitzroy in Pall-mall.

ARCHDEACON THORP—The "Art of transmuting Church Coal into Gold."

LORD DUNGANNON—The "Conduit-Pipe" lately used by the Tory Parsons of Durham.

THE RECTOR OF ROTHBURY—Illustrations of Billingsgate.

THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL—The Original Petition of Lord Londonderry for a Pension, endorsed by the late Earl of Liverpool, "Too bad."

MR. RITSON—"Poison for Rats," dedicated to Alderman Thompson.

LORD SEAHAM—"Man Traps," on an improved principle—useful at elections.

LORD LONDONDERRY—Curiosities from Milan, collected by his Lordship and his associates, Majocchi, Rastelli, Brown, &c., in their capacity of spies on Queen Caroline.

MR. FARRER—The genuine "Old Bags" of the first Earl of Eldon.

JUDAS WRIGHT—The "Bargain and Sale" by which he bartered his political character with Lord Londonderry for certain "pieces of silver."

ALDERMAN THOMPSON—A newly discovered Liquid for the Bleaching of Blackamoors; and the "Art of Lying made Easy," inscribed to the Electors of Sunderland.

MR. R. S. SURTEES—His "Canvass" Book, as Candidate for Gateshead: a beautiful *little* volume.

All the unsold articles of the late Bazaar will be offered on reasonable terms. Stalls will be occupied by Mr. Attwood, Lord Dungannon, Archdeacon Thorp, Prebendary Townsend, &c. &c.; and further information may be obtained, on application to Joseph John Wright, Esq., Sunderland, or to the Trustees.

Sunderland, Sept. 17, 1841.

ALDERMAN THOMPSON'S ARMS.

ALDERMAN WILLIAM THOMPSON, M.P. for Westmorland, son of James Thompson, Esq., of Kendal, in that county, was born in 1793, and married, in 1817, Amelia, second daughter of Samuel Homfray, Esq., formerly M.P. for Stafford, and niece of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar. He sat in Parliament for the borough of Callington in 1820—was elected Alderman of London (for the ward of Cheap) in 1821—was one of the Sheriffs of London during Ald. Heygate's Mayoralty in 1823—was returned for the city of London in 1826, at the head of the poll, and kept his seat until 1832—contested Sunderland unsuccessfully (being fourth on the poll) at the general election of 1832, but, on the retirement of Capt. Barrington in April, 1833, was elected by a majority of 18 over his opponent, Mr. Barclay, the present Member for that borough. In 1835, he again stood a contest, and was returned in conjunction with Mr. Barclay—the old Member, Sir W. Chaytor, being defeated; and in 1837 he was returned along with Mr. Andrew White, Mr. Barclay being lowest on the poll. At the last general election (Mr. White having retired), he and Mr. Barclay were returned without opposition. On the 8th of September, 1841, he announced to the constituency of Sunderland the relinquishment of his seat; and, on the same day, he solicited the suffrages of the electors of Westmorland—for which county he was returned without opposition on the 22d of the same month, as a professed friend of the present Corn Laws.

In London, Mr. Alderman Thompson was a strenuous opponent of the present Corn Laws—he voted for the Reform Bill—he appeared in Sunderland as a Reformer—expressed his determination (*vide* his speech in 1835 from the hustings) to carry out the principles of the Reform Bill, in reforming the abuses

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of both Church and State—pledged himself to the Ballot—and, indeed, so satisfactorily responded to the queries of the Radicals, that he obtained their votes, and thereby secured his return against the old Member, Sir William Chaytor.

His subsequent history has been frequently recorded in the *Observer*. Fishguard—Margate—Ramsgate—Passing Tolls—Broken Pledges—City Improvements—Depford Strond—attempts on the Pilotage on the Wear—are the "honourable scars" which he has earned, during his parliamentary career, in defence of the Coal Trade of the borough and the general interests of its inhabitants!

He is a Director of the Bank of England—President of Christ's Hospital—Vice-Chairman of the Honourable Artillery Company—Director of the Cambrian, Gloucester, and London Railway—is deeply interested in Docks—is Treasurer of King's College—and was Chairman at Lloyd's previous to his connection with the Insurance Association of Sunderland, when he received a broad hint to retire, and took it. He is extensively concerned in the Iron Trade, by which he has amassed a large fortune, and has latterly made large purchases of land in his native county, and expressed an intention of taking up his residence there for the future.

He has an only daughter, an accomplished young lady, whom fashionable rumour points out as the intended bride of the heir presumptive of the estates and honours of the Lowthers.

His "arms," which proudly graced the principal front of the Commercial Hotel in Sunderland, were ruthlessly removed by the landlord on the 24th ult. We have, therefore, procured an engraving of this once highly-prized ornament of that borough, that we may immortalize in our columns what Mr. Horner would cruelly consign to oblivion.

THE FANCY BALL:

OR, THE QUESTION "WHO IS JOB SWAIN?" ANSWERED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—Give ear
To a story queer:
I're heard it said, by sundry folk,
The Gateshead paper loves a joke.
This afternoon,
(I'm a lazy loon,)
I lay on my bed,
With dreams in my head
Of the contest on the Wear:
When I saw—(Oh dear!
What a comical dream!
Let me tell you the cream:)
I dreamt I saw
The Tories hold
High carnival
At a Fancy Ball
In Horner's Hall,
With great *eclat!*
Gentlemen there, ladies fair,
Plump and spare, dark-brown hair,
Carroty-polled,
Swanlike grace, clumsy pace,
Pretty and plain, modest and vain,
Short and long,
A merry throng,
Dancing, waltzing, galloping,
Ogling, flirting, promenading!
The great "MISMANAGER" was there,
And "motley" was our Joseph's wear:
He "a coat of many colours" had,
And, with the Marchioness "Too Bad,"
He danced a solemn minuet,
And showed his skill at a pirouette!
The Marquis, in his cap and bells,
Lounged round the room, the Prince of Swells,
And ogled by turns the Sunderland belles.
M*ll*r, and T*nn*r, and S**rf****d, and Co.,
Danced on the "light, fantastic toe!"
W*lv**r*y A**w**d "steamed" o'er the floor,
"Willis" behind him, and "Job Swain" before,
While a waggish young damsel, poor Matt to annoy,
From under her mask exclaimed "Steamboat, ahoy!"
Old "Tricky and Slippery" came "sliding" in,
In a "fancy dress" made of chameleon-skin!
Each half-fuddled fiddler fresh-rosined his bow,
Then tortured his catgut, and "played-up" Jim Crow!
The tune was infectious:—Sweet William and Swain,
Fat Willis and Joseph, all danced might and main!
'Twas a droll-looking scene! Joe striving to beat
His Alderman-friend in the "wheelabout" feat;
And the *Ocean's* stout steward, as round as the globe,
Puffed—panted—and cried "Ease her!" "Stop her!" to Job.
Job laughed, and continued to caper along
In his "tights" *a la Pickwick*, amazing the throng,
Who beheld him uplifting, and whisking, in fun,
The "two single gentlemen rolled into one,"
Now tossing him up, and now dropping him down,
Like poor Pantaloon in the hands of the Clown!
The steward, exhausted—more dead than alive—
Stared astonished at Job,
And observed on his nob,
In letters of fire,
Th' inscription dire,
"REMEMBER! ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY AND FIVE!!!"
The *Ocean's* purveyor shrank back at the sight:
Job grinned like a fiend at his partner's affright,
And whirled round on his toe in a fit of delight—
Which pirouette-extra so stretched his tight "smalls,"
That—(to name it, I blush, but Fidelity calls)—
They split with a crack that made the hotel
Re-echo, and crimsoned the cheek of each belle!
The "tights" split in twain:—and it made the folks quail,
When out of the rent flew OLD CLOOTIE'S long tail!!!
The Tories, appalled, made a rush to the door—
Helter-skelter they ran, and their finery tore
In scrambling who first should be out of the place,
While His Majesty roared with delight at the race.
Espying the Alderman slipping away
In the midst of this serio-comic affray,
He seized his old friend by his "arms" with a growl,
And terrified "Tricky" set up a loud howl.
Then from my dose
I woke—arose—
Looked from my window—and, behold!
(How shall the dreadful news be told!)
I saw friend Horner in the street,
With countenance, dark, fell, and snubbish:
And Thompson's "arms" lay at his feet,
A HEAP OF RUBBISH!!!

Opposite Horner's Hotel, High-street, Sunderland,
Friday Evening, Sept. 24, 1841.

AT a MEETING of CHEMISTS and DRUGGISTS, at the George Inn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, convened by circular, and held on Friday, 17th September, 1841, "for the purpose of forwarding the views of the 'Pharmaceutical Society' of Great Britain," the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

1st. That this meeting highly approves of the constitution and government of the "Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain."

2nd. That the Committee of the "Drug Association" be requested to wait upon those members of the trade who have been prevented from attending, in order to obtain their signatures.

3rd. That this meeting expresses its thanks to the Council in general, and to Mr. Jacob Bell, in particular, for their warm support of the interests of the trade.

4th. That the above resolutions, together with a list of the local members, be advertised in the Newcastle papers.

WILLIAM PROCTOR, Chairman.

Mr. CORNELIUS GARBUTT, Gateshead.
Mr. JOHN COLMAN, Gateshead.
Mr. GEORGE BUSTIN, Sandhill.
Mr. WALKER SWAN, Close.
Mr. JOHN GOODALL, Stock Bridge.
Mr. E. WILSON CHALLONER, Grey-street.
Mr. WILLIAM PROCTOR, Dean-street.
Mr. G. T. TINN, Dean-street.
Mr. HENRY GIBSON, Pilgrim-street.
Mr. JAMES GILPIN, Pilgrim-street.
Mr. JOHN FAIRWEATHER, Pilgrim-street.
Mr. ROBERT MATHER, Pilgrim-street.
Mr. THOMAS ROBSON, Pilgrim-street.
Mr. J. T. BURN, Northumberland-street.
Mr. W. BECKWITH WALKER, Percy-street.
Mr. HENRY RIDLEY, Collingwood-street.
Mr. JOHN BELL DUNN, Westgate.
Mr. ROBERT RUSSELL, Groat-market.
Mr. WILLIAM TURNER, Westgate.
Mr. WILLIAM GIBSON, Bigg-market.
Mr. JOHN TWEDDLE, Grainger-street.
Mr. J. BENSON HEDLEY, Westgate-hill.
Mr. THOMAS RIDLEY, Blackett-street.
Mr. JOHN MYERS, Spital.
Mr. R. MANN, (with Messrs. Daglish & Wilkinson,) Sandhill.
And 24 Associates, who will join in January, 1842.

E. WILSON CHALLONER,
Treasurer and Secretary.

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EXPLOSIONS OF BOILERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—I observed, with no small degree of pleasure, in your paper of the 11th inst., a letter recalling to memory the fatal explosion of the Derwent Crook boiler. This subject, I imagined, had, like many others of a similar character, been allowed to sink quietly into oblivion, as if the discovery of the cause of it were something rather to be dreaded than wished for.

I was, however, on an examination of the letter, greatly disappointed to find the affair almost wholly misrepresented, and so clouded in something which I suppose is intended for a theory, as, I conceive, to mislead rather than enlighten the public on the subject.

It will be my object, in the present letter, to correct what I consider the mistakes in the accounts that have been given, and to relate the facts in that simple and unvarnished manner which becomes the subject.

I doubt not that pure philanthropy has induced Mr. Douglas to bring the subject again before the public; but this would be a very insufficient reason to allow an account so incorrect as his, or an opinion so unwarrantable and so dangerous in its tendency, to pass unheeded. It is probably owing to a want of practical knowledge that he asserts that any part of the boiler was red hot, or that the packing of either steam or water pipe was consumed by flame; for certainly there was not the slightest symptom of the boiler having been in such a state, either above or below. And, besides, I examined it about an hour after the explosion—at which time it was quite cool: and that could not have been the case, had it been any hotter than usual.

But it is an assertion still more astounding, and equally unfounded, that the boiler left its seat, ascended into the air, *and then exploded*; for a considerable part of the bottom was left almost covered in the brick-work; and the men who were in the engine-house at the time neither saw nor heard anything, till the wall of the house was blown in upon them. It is true, parts of the bottom were projected to a distance, but that is easily accounted for by supposing that they were not entirely separated from the boiler until it had left its seat. And, above all, the building was swept from its foundations in all directions—a circumstance which could not have happened had the boiler not exploded before it took flight.

I would here remark, by way of apology, that if the class of men whose attention I would particularly invite to everything relating to steam boilers, (viz., enginemen,) were not generally unacquainted with science, I would not have wasted a moment in disproving, or have at all noticed, such an utter impossibility as that of a boiler rising from its seat, and flying into the air, without first having its equilibrium destroyed by the bursting of some part of the bottom; for to suppose for a moment that it could ascend on the balloon principle, would betray unpardonable ignorance in any one who makes the slightest pretension to scientific knowledge.

But, to pass over the incorrectness of Mr. Douglas's account, calculated as it is to mislead "gentlemen who take an interest therein, but are at a distance," the only inference that can be drawn from the letter in question, and, in fact, from the opinions that he has openly declared on former occasions—that explosions are produced by causes over which the men in charge have not the slightest controul—is certainly nothing short of indirectly countenancing carelessly-disposed men in the neglect of their duty. "For," said Mr. Douglas, in his examination before the coroner, "the new boiler is just as liable to explode the next minute as ever the old one was. Great strength of boiler does not in the least prevent it; but, on the contrary, makes it worse when it does come."

Such assertions as these I leave to your readers to dispose of as they think best, feeling confident that they only require to be known to be condemned by all sound-thinking men.

In attempting to develop the true cause of the fatal catastrophe at Derwent Crook Colliery, I cannot but observe that it has afforded some rare instances of "straining at gnats and swallowing camels." The cause of failure in the boiler was purely mechanical; and yet the simple facts which would have explained the whole have been stepped over, as if too insignificant to be noticed in such a momentous affair; and nothing less than electro-chemistry, with its clouds and darkness, has been thought sufficient to explain so important a phenomenon.

That the *insufficiency* of the boiler was the cause of its exploding, cannot, I think, be doubted by any one who examined it, and knew the circumstances under which it had been worked It was one of the oldest forms of boiler, such as may be seen here and there attached to old atmospheric engines, though none of that form are now manufactured. It may serve as a homely description to those who have not seen such boilers, to say that in appearance they are similar to a round hay-stack, the top being arched over, the sides nearly parallel, but the bottom arched inwards. About half of the length of the lowest plates forming the sides are returned towards the inside with a curve of about five or six inches radius, to which the bottom is attached—the part so curved being commonly called the lagging. This being understood, it will appear very plain that the bottom is the weakest part of those boilers, as it it will have a constant tendency to unfold at the lagging, and break down; while the iron forming the top and sides will be put to its utmost test before a fracture can take place, owing to the top being spherical and the sides cylindrical—which forms insure the greatest possible strength. Boilers of this description are generally strengthened with stays in the inside, but in the one in question no stays had been applied. And, besides, it was in an extraordinary situation for such a boiler; for, in general, boilers of this kind are not worked at a pressure of more than three or four pounds to the square inch, and, in fact, were never intended to be worked higher. But the boiler at Derwent Crook had been worked, unstayed as it was, at ten pounds to the square inch! How long it had been worked at this pressure I am unable to say; but it had got a new bottom about seventeen months previous to the accident, and, according to the statements made by the engineman and others to the coroner's jury, it had needed repairs almost every fortnight since that time, on account of excessive leakage. And the appearance of the boiler did certainly bear them out fully in their statements; for the lagging was rent in all directions, and almost covered with plates and plasters of white lead—not one of which plates was calculated to strengthen it in the least. They were merely fastened with one bolt in the centre; whereas, had they been rivetted, they might have prevented any enlargement of the rents. It was evident that the rents had been constantly increasing, both in size and number; and, as a natural consequence, the boiler-bottom had been gradually going down, and, of course, becoming less liable to resist the pressure; until, at an unfortunate moment, when its strength could no longer withstand it—or perhaps being hastened by a slight excess of pressure, it had buckled and broken out altogether.

And now, Sir, I suppose, it will be asked, "Why did the boiler ascend?" This is very plain. The bottom left it; and, in that instant its equilibrium was destroyed, or, in other words, the pressures on the top and bottom, which before had balanced each other, were now left to exert their forces separately; consequently the boiler received an instantaneous impulse, equal to the whole of the amount of pressure on the bottom—which, in this case, was upwards of forty-one tons. I forget the diameter of the boiler—but, for the sake of illustration, I have supposed it to be nine feet; but, in any case, the force that lifts the boiler is just equal to to the amount of pressure on an area equal to that of the breach.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
JOHN PATTERSON.

Gateshead Fell, Sept. 23, 1841.

STEAM-BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—You will oblige me by the insertion of this short letter, in reply to a longer communication, which appeared in your paper of the 2nd inst., signed "JOHN PATTERSON, Gateshead Fell." This writer calls my veracity in question, regarding the state in which I found the boiler, after the explosion at Derwent Crook. I have only to reiterate, that what I stated in my letter of August 27, is perfectly correct, however strange the statement may appear to that gentleman—who possesses, I believe, little practical knowledge of the subject. When he has served a twenty years' apprenticeship, as I have done, he may then be a better judge. Meanwhile, I most respectfully decline a correspondence with so uncourteous and inexperienced an opponent.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
JOHN C. DOUGLAS.

7, Blenheim-street, Newcastle, Oct. 6, 1841.

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HOW TO MAKE IRON SWIM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Although many of your scientific readers may be aware of the circumstance I am about to relate, yet a large majority of the working classes may not be in that situation. Permit me, therefore, for their benefit, to state an instance, to which I was eye-witness, of the wonders effected by scientific knowledge.

In the early history of Durham it is stated that the stone coffin in which its patron saint, St. Cuthbert, was placed, floated with its precious load from the main land to Holy Island, where its remains were seen, as recorded, some generations afterwards. This, it is now well known, was simply effected by the stone boat being reduced so much in weight as to be lighter than the quantity of water it displaced. On the same principle the different water companies for the western part of the metropolis have contrived to make their cast-iron pipes *float* to their proper situations in the river.

Your readers are aware that a very lengthened and somewhat angry controversy was carried on some time ago, respecting the filthy state of the water, as commonly supplied from the Thames. After many plans were tried, it was at length agreed to take their supplies from the opposite side of the river to where their engines worked, thus avoiding the suction of the floating mud on the Middlesex shores. To accomplish this, it was necessary to lay a continuation of cast-iron cylinders, about three feet bore each, right across the bed of the river. To avoid the expense of coffer-dams and piling, and the impeding of the navigation, were the grand objects, and they were completely accomplished in this way. They found that by efficiently stopping up each end of a cylinder, it would float—consequently, the whole, so prepared, would do the like. They then had all the cylinders turned true, to fit each other at the ends; and having joined them with cement, screws, bolts, &c., they were all laid in a row near the water's edge; and when complete, each end of the entire row was made air-tight, and the whole rolled down at low water, till they floated, and swung athwart the river. They were brought to a stand immediately over a channel or ditch scooped out to receive them in the bed of the river, by small posts driven in for that purpose. When they were thus suspended over their right place, the ends were unstopped, and they immediately sunk to their place of destination. Their ends, being exposed at low-water mark, could be carried farther to this or that side, at discretion.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

London, Oct. 5, 1841. AN OLD GATESIDER.

TO MR. STEPHEN LOWREY.

SIR,—In consequence of what took place between you and myself on Wednesday, in the Town Council, I consider it due to my constituents to address these few lines publicly to you; and in doing so, I think it will be only necessary for me to show the position in which you stand by repeating the accusations and charges I brought against you in the Council, and which charges you have never had the courage to meet.

In the list of charges I delivered into the hands of the Town Clerk in January last, you will find the 28th says:—

28th. "Mr. Lowrey, for saying in the Council that he did not survey the ballast punts, when building with his white spruce, which was contrary to truth.

29th. "In endeavouring to impose upon the River Committee when surveying the piling and quay platform at Walker, by showing and handing about a piece of Baltic fir amongst them (the Committee), calling it, and endeavouring to persuade them, it was white spruce.

30th. "In stating, in the River Committee, that his ship, the *Harvest Home*, came straight up the river, drawing thirteen feet eight inches of water, the same tide that several other vessels took the ground, and received considerable damage; though the fact was that she took the ground, and continued on it till she was lightened by keels on the 25th Nov."

As the last charge appears to be the only one the correctness of which you have denied, I shall confine myself to showing its truth—and which the following note will prove beyond dispute:—

"The *Harvest Home* grounded on the 25th November, on Willington Sand, and laid one tide: the following tide she grounded on Hebburn Shoal, abreast of Walker oil mill, and came off the following tide. During the time she was on shore they discharged part of her cargo.

"THOMAS SMITH, Pilot Master."

I have a similar statement to this from Mr. John Hunter, one of the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House; and by the Tide-Waiter's (Customhouse Officer's) book, it also appears that part of the *Harvest Home's* cargo was discharged into keels to lighten her, so that she might float off the sand. I think no gentleman who reads this will be surprised at my treating with indifference and contempt the language you made use of on Wednesday, as I assure you it is some time since I determined to pay no attention to any thing that proceeded from you.—As there is no touching pitch without being defiled, I must beg to take leave of you now and for ever.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE STRAKER.

Newcastle, October 1st, 1841.

GATESHEAD FELL DAHLIA SHOW.—OPENING OF THE PUBLIC ROOMS.—Monday last was a gala day on the Low Fell—the large room of the building now completed for the purposes of a Public School, Library, &c., being opened for the first time, for the purposes of the Dahlia Show. The exhibition and the attendance were both highly creditable to the neighbourhood—and the *promenade* in the evening was so much crowded as to be, at one time, almost a *stand-still*. The flowers were arranged on a large table in the middle of the room—on which also was placed a lion rampant, beautifully executed in evergreens and dahlias by Mr. Edward Liddle—a tasteful dahlia chandelier was suspended from the ceiling—an elegant peacock, in the borrowed plumes of the dahlia, designed by Mr. Thomas Liddell, also made his appearance on the occasion—and we must not forget the dahlias which, in the shape of the crown, exhibited their loyalty on the exterior of the building. An excellent violin band was also in attendance. The following are the prizes, and the names of the winners:—

Best Variegated Dahlia, Duchess of Richmond, Mr. R. Eltringham, Walker. Second-best, Duchess of Northumberland, Mr. E. Fernay, Whickham. Third-best, Phenomenon, Mr. Albert Errington, Ravensworth.

Best Self Dahlia, Essex Rival, Mr. E. Ismay, Whickham. Second-best, President of the West, Mr. R. Rawling, Walker. Third-best, Lewisham Rival, Mr. E. Ismay, Whickham.

Best and second-best Three Dissimilar Blooms, Mr. A. Errington, Ravensworth. Third-best, Mr. Matthew Brown, Ravensworth. Fourth-best, Mr. T. Coulson, Chowdean.

Best and second-best Six Dissimilar Blooms, Mr. A. Errington. Third-best, Mr. R. Rawling. Fourth-best, Mr. M. Brown.

Best and third-best Twelve Dissimilar Blooms, Mr. A. Errington. Second-best, Mr. R. Eltringham. Fourth-best, Mr. E. Ismay.

Best Device, a Lion Rampant, Mr. Edward Liddell, Trench Hall. Second-best, a Peacock, Mr. T. Liddell, Gateshead Low Fell. Third-best, a Chandelier, Mr. T. Liddell.

We are happy to add, that but one opinion was expressed of the excellence of the building, and of its objects, by the numerous parties (of all classes) who attended the show, either in the afternoon or evening; and we trust one effect of this general satisfaction will be—a timely contribution from the public towards the funds necessary to the liquidation of all claims upon the committee, who have so handsomely and so zealously attended to the undertaking. We understand that about £100 is still required to place the Public Rooms on an independent footing—a sum which, we should hope, there will be but little difficulty in raising. Mr. Davidson, the excellent schoolmaster who has been engaged by the committee, commences his labours on Monday week; and as the school is *open to all*, and the terms of instruction remarkably moderate, the happiest results may be anticipated.—OCT. 2.

The first quarterly meeting of the shareholders of the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms was held on Monday last, at the Gateshead Arms, (Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair,) when the following report was read, received, and adopted:—

"The Committee beg to report as follows:—The last general meeting was held here on the 19th of August, when Mr. Andrew Davidson was appointed Master of the Gateshead Fell Public School. Since then the building has proceeded satisfactorily, and promises to be completed nearly within the time stipulated. The Committee have had a meeting with Mr. Davidson, for the purpose of arranging the prices, which were fixed as follows:—Reading, 4s. per quarter, or 3½d. per week; reading and writing, 5s. 6d. or 5d.; reading, writing, and arithmetic, 6s. 6d. or 6d.; English grammar (extra), 1s. or 1d. Instruction in the higher branches in proportion. The school will be opened on Monday, the 11th inst. The state of our funds is as follows:—385 shares have been taken, which, at £1 per share, is £385. Of this sum there has been re-

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ceived £360—leaving arrears on the shares yet to be collected, £25. The amount of donations subscribed is £178 8s. 6d. The amount already received, £168 3s. 6d. Arrears yet to be collected, £10 5s The whole arrears, £35 5s. The most of these arrears will, we hope, soon be got in, as the parties have all been requested to pay.—The cash-account stands thus:—Received for shares, £360: for donations, £168 3s. 6d. Total, £528 3s. 6d. Paid Mr. Thomas Liddell, £400; Mr. C. Gray, for ground, £78 3s. 6d.; Mr. Oliver's account, £9 19s. 6d.; Mr. Dodds, account-book, 5s. 9d.; receipt-stamp for C. Ellison, Esq., 1s.; *Observer* account, for advertising, £3 13s. 6d. Total, £492 3s. 3d. Balance in the Treasurer's hands, as per cash-book, £36 0s. 3d.: arrears, £35 5s.; making together, £71 5s. 3d.; which is all we have with which to meet the balance of £125 due to Mr. Liddell (as per agreement), and other small accounts, including Messrs. Kell & Apedaile's account. The Committee hope that the friends to the Public Rooms will exert their best endeavours in assisting them to raise the sum yet wanting to complete their engagements, by increasing the number of shareholders and donations, as it is very desirable that the debt should be liquidated as soon as possible."

This is an appeal to public support which we trust will be successful.—The friends of the institution intend to celebrate its opening by a public dinner on the 8th of November; and they have properly determined to issue the tickets at so low a price as will render the entertainment accessible to the greatest possible number.

The farewell-*soiree* to the Rev. William Turner, which was to have taken place on Thursday evening, has been indefinitely deferred, owing (we regret to state) to an accident sustained by that venerable gentleman on Tuesday last. Mr. Turner, we understand, had a fall on that day, and received injuries in consequence, which, although not so severe as to excite any apprehensions for his safety, were sufficiently so to render the postponement of the *soiree* unavoidable. On Sunday last, Mr. Turner preached his farewell-sermon in Hanover-square chapel, Newcastle, to a crowded congregation, from Paul's parting words to the church at Ephesus (Acts xx. 32):—"And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among them which are sanctified." From this impressive passage of Holy Writ, the reverend gentleman preached a discourse necessarily impressive from the circumstances under which it was delivered, the preacher being in the 81st year of his age, and nearly the 60th of his ministry in the Unitarian church of Newcastle. There was in the congregation one hearer—and only one—(an aged lady)—who heard Mr. Turner's *first* sermon in Hanover-square chapel: she has now heard his first and his last. She was also present at his ordination, and remembers his reverend father addressing him as the third generation of a direct succession of Christian ministers in one family. Since that time, the succession has extended to two further generations, the son and grandson of Mr. Turner being now in the ministry.—Oct. 2.

Gateshead Union.—At the board-meeting of the Gateshead Poor Law Union, held on Tuesday last, notice was was given by the Rector of Gateshead of his intention to suggest that the religious instruction of the paupers be taken into consideration next meeting; and a notice was also given by Mr. Kenmir respecting the distant residence of the Relieving Officer of Gateshead. The sale of the old workhouse is to be considered next meeting. We cannot be presumed to know what the Rector's intention may be; but if a salaried chaplain be his object, we trust it will be frustrated. We say it with all respect, but still we say it firmly, that so long as there is an "Established" Church, deriving its income from public property, so long is that Church bound to supply religious instruction to the people. If the Church accept the property, it must fulfil the condition. If it take the wealth, it must perform the duty—and we can see no distinction between a poor man's home provided by himself, and a poor man's home provided by his neighbours. As to the other notice of motion—the residence of Relieving Officers in the most populous part of their districts, is self obvious.

New Church at Pelton, near Chester-le-Street.—On Thursday, Sept. 30th, the interesting ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the above new church took place, in the presence of a large company assembled for the occasion. A procession was formed at the village of Pelton, consisting of the Clergy present, the Committee, and others interested in the undertaking, headed by the singers of the parish-church and the children of the neighbouring schools. The laying of the stone was kindly undertaken by Thomas Fenwick, Esq., who delivered a short address on the occasion. Coins of the present reign, together with a newspaper of the day, and a list of the principal promoters of the church, enclosed in a glass bottle, were deposited in a cavity of the stone, and covered with a brass plate bearing the following inscription:—"This foundation-stone of the church of the Holy Trinity, at Pelton, in the parish of Chester-le-Street, was laid by Thomas Fenwick, of South Hill, in the county of Durham, Esq., on the 30th day of September, 1841." The 100th Psalm was sung—two solemn and appropriate prayers were read by the Rev. James Boucher, the officiating clergyman—and the ceremony was concluded by singing the doxology. The silver trowel used on the occasion having been presented to Mr. Fenwick, as a memorial of the day's proceedings, the procession was reversed, and in this order returned to the village, where a handsome collation had been prepared by Mr. Bolam, of the Grey Horse inn. The church is to be built in the early English style of architecture, with long lancet windows. It will have a chancel of the proper proportions, and will afford accommodation for 400 persons—two-thirds of the sittings being free. The ground for the site was munificently granted by Mr. Fenwick, who has been, throughout, an active promoter of the undertaking.

Mr. James Smith, of Henderson's-place, Low Fell, was elected, on Tuesday last, Councillor of the South Ward of this Borough, in the place of the late much-respected Mr. Coutt.

The Gateshead National School is to be built forthwith. The contracts have been entered into, we hear, by Mr. Lister, for the mason-work, and by Mr. Clark, for the joiner-work, both of this borough.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD SHIPOWNERS' SOCIETY.

This society met in the Trinity Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 6, (George Straker, Esq., in the chair,) to consider the propriety of concurring in opinion with the Shields societies, as to the desirableness of placing the river Tyne in commission: and on general business. The resolution of the North and South Shields shipowners having been read, a long discussion ensued on the subject; Mr. A. Nichol, Mr. C. Rayne, and Mr. Jobling, contending that, although errors and imperfections had existed in the management of river matters by the present conservators, no case had been made out for depriving them of office; Mr. Joseph Straker, Mr. H. S. Straker, and Mr. Brockett, on the other hand, advocating the propriety of placing the river in commission, and thereby securing a representation of all the communities interested, and as a means of adopting improvements which had been neglected. A motion to this effect, however, was eventually withdrawn, and the following resolution carried unanimously, on the motion of Mr. C. Rayne, seconded by Mr. John Jobling:—

"That this meeting, sensible of the importance of the improvements necessary to be conducted on the river, recommend the shipowners of the neighbourhood to impress on the corporation of Newcastle the necessity of conducting the operations so as to increase the safety of the port, and the depth of water in the channel."

The Chairman brought the subject of embargo in time of war before the meeting, and thought it highly desirable that steps should be taken to induce the different governments of the world to abolish the system altogether—a system by which injustice and ruin had been entailed upon thousands; and a resolution to that effect was carried, on the motion of Mr. Ingo, seconded by Mr. Doeg.

The subjoined Report was read by the Honorary Secretary; and having been received, the Secretary was instructed to publish it; after which the meeting dissolved.

REPORT ON THE WHITBY, SCARBOROUGH, AND BRIDLINGTON PIER DUTIES ON COALS.

The attention of the Newcastle and Gateshead Shipowners' Society having been called to the duties on coals levied for the repair and improvement of the piers of Whitby, Scarborough, and Bridlington, I was instructed to make inquiry into the authority by which the said duties are collected, as well as into their extent and probable duration. I now beg to lay before the society the result of my investigation.

The pier duties at present more particularly affecting the trade of this district, and payable by the shipowner, are as follow:—

Whitby Piers.—One halfpenny per chaldron on coals shipped within the ports of Newcastle and Sunderland.

Scarborough Piers.—One penny for every ten tons of coals shipped. One penny for every five tons burthen on all vessels passing

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Scarborough, except vessels paying the coal duties, or Sunderland vessels, or vessels in ballast. [*Sunderland vessels entering Scarborough are liable to one shilling per register ton by the act of* 1805.]

BRIDLINGTON PIERS.—One farthing for every two-and-a-half tons of coals conveyed in any vessel past Bridlington for delivery to the southward of the places of shipment.

These duties are taken under the authority of the Acts of Parliament hereafter referred to. There are, at the same time, other duties payable under the same Acts; but being either in the shape of harbour dues on goods landed, or on vessels making use of the ports, they do not appear so objectionable as to require specification or remark in the present report.

WHITBY.—The first Whitby Pier Act was passed in 1702. It imposed, "in consideration of the utility of the port, as a place of refuge for colliers and other coasting vessels," a duty of a farthing per chaldron on all coals shipped at Newcastle, or its dependencies, including Sunderland, (except in Yarmouth vessels,) besides a duty of sixpence on every chaldron of coals landed at Whitby. A power was also given to borrow money on mortgage of the duties—and the Act was to remain in force nine years.

The power of mortgaging, it seems, had been so largely exercised, that an Act was obtained in 1709 to continue the powers of the former one until 1723.

In 1720 and 1734, Acts were passed by which the duties on coals shipped were further continued, (the Act of 1720, also comprising Bridlington Piers) and, in 1749, an *additional* duty of one farthing per chaldron was granted for the period of 31 years.

In 1765, when the Act of 1734 was about to expire, a new Act was obtained, continuing the *original* duty for another term of 31 years. In 1780, the *additional* duty of 1749 was also extended 31 years longer; in 1796, the *original* duty was prolonged for another term of 31 years; and, "*finally*, in 1812," as stated by the Rev. Mr. Young in his History of Whitby, "the *additional* duty was renewed for a like term."

The Act of 1812, however, was not a "final" one. In 1827, the aggregate duty of one halfpenny per chaldron, payable at the place of shipment "by the master or owner of every ship that shall load or ship any coals at the port of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, or at Sunderland, Blyth, Seaton Sluice, Cullercoats, or any other harbour, colliery, or place that is a member of the said port of Newcastle-upon-Tyne," was made payable "FOR EVER"—existing mortgages and prospective repairs being set forth in the preamble of the Act as apologies for the imposition.

There is also a duty of one shilling per ton on coals landed in Whitby, payable under an Act for "better paving, cleansing, lighting, watching, and improving" that town, which was passed in 1837. This duty was originally imposed in 1789, in lieu of a rate on rental which previously existed in the town, and was applied to the purposes of its improvement. The Act of 1837, however, authorizes both coal duty and rental rate.

The Act of 1827 having repealed all previous Acts except so far as relates to Bridlington piers, the privilege of exemption previously enjoyed by Yarmouth vessels no longer exists.

It is stated in Young's History of Whitby (published in 1817), that the "sum raised by this duty, (the halfpenny per chaldron pier duty,) together with the perpetual duties levied at Whitby in virtue of the Acts of 1702 and 1720, amounts on an average to about £2,000 yearly, though in some former periods the amount was greatly inferior." The present amount of these duties, with their application also, will be best seen by the following account for 1840, with which I have been favoured by the Deputy Clerk of the Peace for the North Riding of Yorkshire:—

Abstract of the Receipts and Payments of Whitby Piers from 5th of January, 1840, to 5th of January, 1841.

Dr.			
Balance due Treasurer at the commencement of the year..	£4,227	19	10
Workmen's wages	1,175	9	11
Officers' salaries and allowances	340	0	0
Stone-merchant's bill	610	4	0
Smith and ironfounders	244	12	9
Interest on bonds	329	17	6
Interest on floating-debt and on loan	224	17	11
Tradesmen's bills	582	1	1
Advance to solicitors	500	0	0
Church and poor rates and street dues	3	19	4
Rents	19	0	0
Purchase of premises	3,649	2	1
Postages		2	6
	£11,907	6	2

Cr.			
Net amount of duties on coals at Sunderland	£990	2	6
——— Newcastle	1,938	5	7
——— Blythnook	129	12	10
——— Whitby and laden ships..	254	10	6
——— do. light ships	38	16	9
Rents	13	0	0
Loan from Messrs. Simpson, Chapman, & Co., on debenture	5,000	0	0
Sale of old materials	45	6	0
Balance due to Treasurer at the end of the year	3,497	12	0
	£11,907	6	2

Examined 22d January, 1841.

THOMAS SIMPSON, Chairman.

EDWARD C. TOPHAM, Deputy Clerk of the Peace.

Whitby, January 22, 1841.

These accounts, by the Act of 1827, are to be open to the inspection of any person paying or contributing to the duties; and such person may take copies or extracts "without paying anything for the same."

The following are the net amounts of coal duty received (on coals landed at Whitby) under the "Improvement" Act, during the years ending the 5th of July:—

1838	£393	6	11
1839	349	15	7
1840	492	0	10

The town rates on rental during the same periods respectively were £400, £1,143 17s. 10d., and £789 7s. 5d.

SCARBOROUGH.—The first Scarborough Pier Act was passed in 1731, (5 Geo. II.) It recites "that the harbour of the ancient town corporate of Scarborough is the only place between the port of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the river Humber capable of receiving, in distress of weather, ships navigating to and along the northern coasts of this kingdom, and to and from the eastern seas, and other places, without much difficulty," and provides that for the enlargement,* extension, and keeping in repair of the piers, a duty of one halfpenny per chaldron shall be paid to the Corporation of Scarborough, on all coals shipped (except in Yarmouth vessels) in Newcastle, Sunderland, Blyth, Seaton Sluice, Cullercoats, or any where within the limits of the port of Newcastle. This Act was to continue in force from 1732 until 1763.

The bailiff and burgesses of Scarborough, it seems, had been faithless trustees of the Act of 1731; for in 1751 (25 Geo. II.), another Act was obtained, removing them from office, and appointing other commissioners in their stead, because (as stated in the preamble) they had raised money by mortgage on the duties, and applied it "in the discharge of their own bonds and private debts and engagements, or retained it in their own hands," instead of applying it to the purposes of the Act. The duties were not altered by the Act of 1751.

In 1763 (3 Geo. III.), the duty on coals was continued by a new Act for a further term of twenty years, except on coals shipped by vessels belonging to the port of Sunderland, which were to be exempt after the 24th of June, 1763.

In 1777 (18 Geo. III.), a new pier having been begun, at a large annual expense, and which could not be completed without further aid, another Act was obtained, continuing the duties for twenty years longer; and providing that the accounts of the commissioners should be produced for "inspection and allowance" at either the Michaelmas or Christmas sessions for the North Riding of York. By this Act the bailiffs of the borough were restored to eligibility as commissioners.

In 1801 (41 Geo. III.), another Act was obtained, which, after reciting that the new pier could not be completed, and other works done, without further aid, continued the duties for twenty years longer, viz., to 24th June, 1823; and provided that the accounts might be certified at either the Christmas, Easter, or Michaelmas sessions.

In 1805 (45 Geo. III.), another Act was obtained, which recited that the pier could not be "completed and maintained without a further considerable outlay and expense," and that ships belonging to Sunderland frequented, and in tempestuous weather took shelter within, the said harbour of Scarborough. It provided, therefore, that Sunderland ships entering the harbour should pay one shilling per register ton; and that one penny for every five tons burthen should be levied in future on every ship or decked vessel which should pass coastwise from, to, or by the said port or harbour of Scarborough, except vessels

* The estimated expense of enlarging the pier, and thereby obtaining six feet additional water, is stated in the preamble at twelve thousand pounds.

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paying the coal duty, or belonging to Sunderland, or in ballast. It also enacted, that vessels entering the harbour not coal laden, or returning from delivery of coal, or belonging to Sunderland, or paying any of the other duties imposed by the Act, should pay towards the tide light. Power was likewise given to purchase lands, erect quays, &c., and borrow money on mortgage.

In 1822 (3 Geo. IV.), a seventh Act was passed, which recites that the harbour had been greatly improved, a new western pier erected and completed, and an outer harbour formed, thereby affording great additional security to vessels.

This Act authorizes members of the corporation, whether bailiffs or not, (but not exceeding five in number), to become commissioners, and enacts that the coal duty shall be reduced one-half from and after the 1st August after the passing of the Act, or sooner if the improvements contemplated should be sooner effected; and to cease altogether when sufficient funds shall have been obtained. The Act is to continue for twenty-one years, and "thence to the end of the next session of Parliament."

In the following session of 1823 (4 Geo. IV.), an eighth Act was obtained. After stating that "some of the provisions contained in the last Act are inconvenient, and that it is expedient that some errors therein should be rectified," it enacts that so much of the previous Act as provides for a reduction of duty on coals to one half shall be "repealed and made void," and that the entire duty granted by the Act of 1801 be revived and continue in force until the 1st of June, 1830, after which the half duty only shall be payable until the period prescribed by the Act of the preceding session.

The receipts of Scarborough "Piers" duties, and their application, between the 14th of August, 1839, and the 19th of September, 1840, were as follows:—

Dr.

To 8340 tons of sand taken out of the harbour at 6d. per ton	£208	10	0
Labourers' wages	82	0	7
Salaries	157	0	0
Tradesmen's bills, &c. &c.	125	6	0
Coulson, & Co., for conveyance by lighters of stone to the break-water on the east side of the new pier	54	15	0
Advertising meetings of the Commissioners	3	15	1
Use of room at meetings and sundry small expenses	18	5	5
Balance due to the pier, 19th Sept., 1840	2696	9	5¾
	£3346	1	6¾

Cr.

By coast duty from Newcastle	£1031	16	3
——— Sunderland	155	10	3
Local duties collected at Scarborough	529	6	6½
Total of old duty	£1716	13	0½
New duty	1149	14	0
Use of lighters in ballasting ships; Use of crane on west pier, &c.	30	17	6
Balance brought from last year's account, 14th Aug., 1839	449	17	0½
	£3346	1	6¾

HENRY FOWLER, Treasurer.

We have examined the above account, and find it correct.

P. MURRAY.
SAMUEL S. BYRON.
WILLIAM TRAVIS.

Scarborough, 25th Sept., 1840.

The above account was furnished by Messrs. Travis & Cook, Secretaries to the Pier Commissioners, to whom I applied, after being informed by the Deputy Clerk of the Peace for the North Riding of Yorkshire, that the accounts were not certified at the sessions, as directed by the Act of Parliament. Along with the account I received the following obliging letter:—

Scarborough, 27th May, 1841.

Sir,—In compliance with the request contained in yours of the 17th inst., we beg to forward the last annual published statement of the account of the Scarborough pier and harbour. The Treasurer, every year, transmits the account to the Clerk of the Peace for the North Riding, to be passed according to the regulations of the Pier Acts. We may observe that works for the improvement of the harbour are in progress which will exhaust the balance of the Pier Fund, and probably exceed it.

We are Sir, your obedient servants,
TRAVIS & COOK, Secretaries to the Pier Commissioners.

BRIDLINGTON.—The several Acts relating to the piers and harbour of Bridlington were passed in the following sessions of Parliament, viz.:—The 8th and 9th Wm. III.; the 1st, 5th, and 7th Geo. I.; the 26th Geo. II.; the 29th and 56th Geo. III.; and 1st Vict. The last Act received the royal assent on the 12th July, 1837, and is that under which the present duties are levied. Its preamble states, that under the powers of the previous Acts "the piers and harbours of Bridlington had been much improved, and great expense been thereby incurred; but some of the works by the said recited Acts authorized were yet incomplete, and a considerable portion of the money borrowed on the credit of the said Acts still remained due and unpaid, and that the future maintenance of the said piers and harbours would require a continual annual expenditure to a considerable amount." It therefore repeals all former Acts, but makes the new duty liable to the debts already contracted, and authorizes the Commissioners to receive, *at the ports of loading*, "for every two and a half tons of coals that shall be conveyed *in any vessel past the said port or harbour of Bridlington*, for the purpose of being delivered to the *southward of the respective ports at which they shall be shipped*, the sum of one farthing."

The Act provides that the duty shall be in force for thirty-one years, unless the works of the pier and harbour shall be sooner completed, when the duty shall cease. It also authorizes the borrowing of money on mortgage of the duties, and provides that mortgagees under the old Acts shall have a preference over those under the new one, but that the latter shall have no preference over each other; and it requires that an abstract of the accounts shall annually be sent to the Mayor of Newcastle, and to the Officers of Customs of Sunderland, Blyth, Seaton Sluice, Cullercoats, Seaham, Hartlepool, Stockton, and Middlesbrough, and to the Chief Lord of the Manor of Bridlington, and be laid also before the justices in quarter sessions of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and before Parliament.

Vessels that have paid the coal duty are not to be subject to harbour dues, if entering the harbour for protection or refuge.

The following is the official abstract of the account of the receipts and expenditure of the Commissioners of the Bridlington piers and harbours, for the year ending the 20th of July, 1840:—

Abstract of the General Account of the Commissioners of Bridlington Piers and Harbour, appointed by an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act for improving the Piers and Harbour of Bridlington, in the East Riding of the county of York, and for rendering the same more safe and commodious as a Harbour of Refuge," from the 26th day of July, 1839, to the 26th day of July, 1840.

Dr.

Balance due to the Treasurer	£3517	16	5
Labourers' weekly wages	1115	5	8
Mr. Bolton, for stone	219	11	4
Chalk, stone, and freight of same	240	19	6
Timber, freight and leadings	156	1	0
Stationery and advertisements	13	14	8
Cement and lime	191	19	6
Iron and metal	128	19	11
Joiner and boat-builder	25	18	6
Glazing and painting	16	13	6
Ropes	11	4	0
Candles	6	0	6
Interest paid to the Treasurer for money advanced	294	18	5
Mr. Speak's quarterly bill for sundries	81	8	6
Mr. George Gray's ditto	33	11	0
Mr. Thomas Scrivener's ditto	14	0	2
Mr. Sidney Taylor's ditto	16	9	5
Mr. Cattley's ditto	13	11	0
Gravel	11	3	0
Life preserver	1	10	0
Sundries	11	18	3
	£8267	17	3

Cr.

Mr. Pitts, for passing tolls received at the port of Newcastle, after deducting commission for collecting the same	£955	9	0
Mr. Simpson, for passing tolls received at the port of Sunderland, after deducting as above	450	2	3
Mr. Moyle, for passing tolls received at Stockton and the adjacent ports, after deducting as above	511	18	11
Mr. Scrivener, port tolls	607	8	6
Mr. Cattley, harbour dues	310	16	7
Mr. Speck, for wood and iron sold, of no use to the Commissioners	32	0	0
The Lords of the Manor of Bridlington, for pier rates chargeable on lands and hereditaments at Bridlington	265	3	4
Balance due to the Treasurer	5134	18	8
	£8267	17	3

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of the Abstract of the Yearly General Account of the above Commissioners. Given under my hand the 28th day of December, 1840.

SIDNEY TAYLOR, Clerk to the Commissioners of the above Piers and Harbour.

In forwarding a copy of the Act of 1837, in compliance

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with my request, Mr. Sidney Taylor, the Clerk to the Commissioners, wrote me as follows :—

"I am instructed by the Commissioners of the above piers and harbours to forward you a copy of the Act as requested. But as to your request to be furnished with a copy of the accounts for the past year, I am instructed to say, in reply to your letters of the 23rd June and 15th July, that they do not conceive the Act authorizes them to comply with the request."

Perceiving, however, that the Act requires an abstract of the account to be forwarded annually to the Mayor of Newcastle, I applied to our worthy Chief Magistrate, who immediately enabled me to take a copy of the document in question.

Having now detailed the important facts connected with the several cases, I trust I may be allowed to express my firm conviction that, had due vigilance been used, in times gone by, by the mercantile public of the north of England, no such enactments as those to which this report refers would have been sanctioned by parliament. It cannot but appear passing strange that, so recently as the year 1827, the people of Whitby should have been permitted to impose a tax *for ever*, for the use and maintenance of their harbour, upon ships loaded in the ports of Newcastle and Sunderland, from which ships loaded in any other port of the kingdom are free; and, also, that the same people, ten years afterwards, should have been allowed to continue a duty of a shilling per ton on all coals *landed* in the port; both impositions being directly injurious to the great staple commerce of the north, by the partiality of their operation, and by the check to consumption which they necessarily create.

The injustice of taxing shipments from Newcastle and Sunderland, and from these ports only, under pretence of maintaining a harbour of refuge, is too obvious to be dwelt upon; but were it even to be shown, by any process of reasoning, that the vessels of the Tyne and Wear were the only vessels that could be benefited by the accommodations of Whitby, it would still require explanation why vessels proceeding to Scotland, and in other directions, in which the refuge of Whitby could seldom, if ever, be available, should be laid under contribution for its support.

The Scarborough tax in its operation is not less partial, or in its principle less unjust. All vessels loaded in the port of Newcastle are liable to it; but of those loaded in Sunderland, only such as do not belong to that port or to Yarmouth. Why Sunderland and Yarmouth vessels—why the coal-shipments of Scotland, and of the other coal-ports of the north of England, should be exempted (that is, if coal is to be the sole sustainer of harbours), is to me inexplicable; but it is more so why coal, and coal only, is to be the source from which the supplies are to be provided.

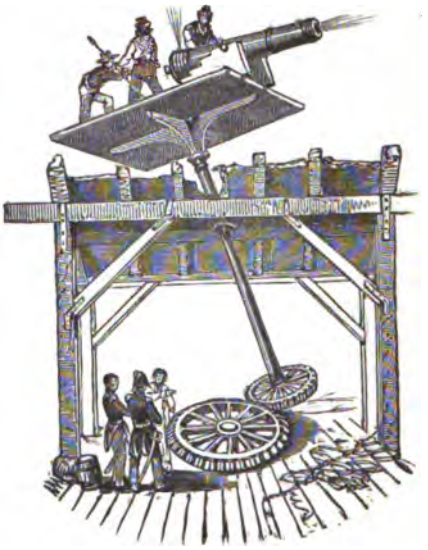
The Bridlington tax has a little better show of reason. It applies only to coals shipped in vessels that are to pass the harbour for whose benefit they are taxed; but, still, strange enough, it is further confined to vessels proceeding to the *southward* of the ports at which their cargoes are shipped.

Why the tax should be confined to coal travelling *southward* is certainly just as intelligible as why, out of all the various articles of commerce that pass the harbour, coal should be selected as the sole victim of its impositions.

What is the remedy for all this evil? What the course to be pursued by the society whose instructions I have been endeavouring to fulfil? These are questions which are easily answered. The injustice to the North of England—not to the shipowner only, for all classes are affected by taxes which operate to the discouragement of their staple trade—is so obvious, that the first representation of it to Parliament must be productive of redress. Any attempt to take from Whitby—or from Scarborough, or Bridlington, before the expiration of their Acts—the *amount* of revenue at present secured to them, would in all probability be unsuccessful; and, indeed, as a matter of policy, such a proceeding would be hardly defensible. But the ends of justice may be attained by an easier and straighter path. The Scarborough Act will expire in 1843—and although the Bridlington dues are in force until 1868, and the Whitby dues *for ever*, still they may be equalized—may be made equitable in principle—may be made to fall, in short, upon all for whose ultimate benefit, it is pretended, they are levied—and be made to fall, too, upon all alike. Newcastle and Sunderland are not more interested than other ports in the maintenance of the harbours of Whitby, Scarborough, and Bridlington, except in proportion to the number and extent of their shipments. Let the rate of pier duty, therefore, be reduced—be made general in its operation—be levied on all vessels passing the harbours in question—and the end in view, will be at once attained:—no injury would be sustained by vested interests, and no injustice would be committed on other ports. There, certainly, is another mode of attaining redress; viz., by compensating the parties and abolishing the pier duties entirely; but this would be a difficult, if not impracticable, undertaking. By urging our claims to justice, at the same time that we respect the vested rights of parties who, I dare say, had, originally, the general benefit of the community in view, however erroneously they may have endeavoured to carry out their scheme, we shall proceed, in my opinion, not only wisely but unanswerably and successfully.

W. H. Brockett,
Hon. Secretary.

Newcastle, Oct. 6th, 1841.



We last week briefly noticed the new work by Mr. Greener, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on "The Science of Gunnery"—a work which, from the racy spirit of enthusiasm in which it is written, will interest and amuse even those persons who care little for the subject-matter itself. We again refer to Mr. Greener's volume, that we may enlighten our readers as to the mode by which the student in gunnery is taught *on shore* to accommodate himself to the inconveniences he must experience *at sea*, when engaged in actual warfare. We had read, in the debates of the House of Commons, of a device that had been adopted to expose the pupil, while learning his lessons on land, to the rolling motion of a ship on the ocean; but, until we saw Mr. Greener's book, we were not aware of the simple means by which this object was attained. The above wood-cut, which has been kindly lent to us by the author, will explain the mystery. "It will be perceived," he says, "that the platform on which the gun and gunners are placed is subject to a motion by the *planet* wheel traversing round the *sun*, or centre wheel, exactly resembling the roll of a ship at sea. Men are trained to balance themselves, and take an aim at a given object with the gun, without the waste of powder or ball. And when, as in the improved percussion plan they would do, a landyard is pulled, the platform is fixed, and the gun pointed in the way the ability of the tyro allows him. The instructor inspects the line of aim—gives his instructions—and the machine is again in motion. On the score of economy, this is an excellent arrangement. May this and such-like improvements continue, and England's marine may play the game as they have done before!"—Oct. 16.

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BYE LAWS.—BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

AT a Quarterly Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Gateshead, holden on Wednesday, the 4th day of August, 1841, at which meeting two-thirds of the whole number of the said Council are present, that is to say—

MAYOR.
WILLIAM HYMERS, Esq.

ALDERMEN.

THOMAS WILSON	JAMES POLLOCK
MICHAEL HALL	JOHN BARRAS
W. H. BROCKETT	

COUNCILLORS.

ROBERT DAVIS	WILLIAM KENMIR
THOMAS REVELY	JOSEPH COUT
GEORGE SOWERBY	THOMAS CUMMINS
JOHN LISTER	JOHN POTTS
RALPH WYLAM	EDMUND GRAHAM

Whereas at a meeting of the said Council, holden on the fifth day of May now last past, the said Council did repeal a certain bye-law ordained and made by the said Council, on the 7th day of December, in the year of our Lord, 1836, and did order, ordain, and make certain bye-laws for the good rule and government of the said borough; and it hath been represented to this Council that her Majesty, with the advice of her Privy Council, hath disallowed the last-mentioned bye-laws.

And whereas it hath appeared expedient to the said Council that other bye-laws should be made in lieu thereof:—now at this Council it is ordered that the repeal of the said bye-law made on the seventh day of December, in the year of our Lord 1836, be and is hereby confirmed; and that the said bye-laws made on the 5th day of May, now last past, be and the same are hereby repealed; and it is also ordered and ordained by the said Council, and we, the said Council, do hereby order, ordain, and make the following bye-laws, to commence and take effect from the 4th day of October, 1841:—

1. That if any person shall empty, or begin to empty, any swine-sty or privy within the said borough, or shall remove, or begin to remove, any night soil, offal, putrid meat or fish, ashes, or other animal matter of an offensive nature, in, along, or through any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, except between the hours of twelve o'clock at night and eight o'clock in the morning in summer, and between the hours of twelve o'clock at night and nine o'clock in the morning in winter, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for a second offence alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings.

2. That if any person shall, in the course of emptying any swine-sty or privy, or removing any night-soil, offal, putrid meat, or fish, carrion, blood, dung, ashes, manure, or other offensive matter or thing, within the said borough, wilfully or negligently slop or spill, or lay, or cause to be laid, and suffer to remain, any of the said last-mentioned offensive matters and things, in any of the said streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings. Provided always that this bye-law shall not extend to the depositing, for the purpose of removal, dung, manure, or ashes, if the same be removed, and such part of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or public places, on which the same shall have been deposited, be effectually cleansed, within the time limited by the first bye-law for the removal thereof.

3. That if any person shall place or leave, or suffer to remain, beyond a reasonable time for loading and unloading goods, and taking up and setting down passengers, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, save such parts thereof, and under such regulations, as the Council shall from time to time, by any order or orders in writing, appropriate and make for the standing of coaches, omnibuses, chariots, gigs, carts, and carriages, any coach, omnibus, chariot, gig, waggon, timber carriage, dray, cart, sledge, truck, wheelbarrow, handbarrow, or other carriage, every person so offending shall for such offence forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings.

4. That if any person shall throw, deposit, place, or leave, or permit or suffer to run or flow, any night-soil, offal, putrid meat or fish, entrails of fish, carrion, dead animals, blood, dung, manure, oyster shells, bones, broken glass, china or earthenware, dust, ashes, refuse of vegetables or fruits, orange peel, soaper's waste, gas tar, tar or tar water, water or refuse from tan yards, dirty water, or other offensive matter or thing, so as to occasion any nuisance or annoyance, or shall place, lay, or deposit any bricks, stones, lime, rubbish, or dirt, into or upon any street, square, court, highway, alley, footway, or public passage or place within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings. Provided always that no person shall be liable to a penalty for throwing, depositing, placing, or leaving any sand, ashes, or other materials, in the time of frost, upon any footway, to prevent accidents, or any dung, manure, or other materials in the time of frost, to prevent water in pipes from being frozen, or any litter or other proper materials in case of sickness, or during the holding of any court, to prevent noise, or for throwing, depositing, placing, or leaving any bricks, stones, lime, materials, rubbish, or dirt, used in or occasioned by the building, re-building, or repairing of any house or building, so as the same be protected by a close fence or paling of sufficient height, and so as a space of not exceeding twelve feet in breadth of the public street be so occupied, and sufficient space be left on the street, square, court, highway, alley, footway, or public passage or place, where such bricks, stones, lime, materials, rubbish, or dirt shall be thrown, deposited, placed, or left, for carriages and for passengers to pass along such street, square, court, highway, alley, footway, or public passage or place, and so as a footway three feet wide be made outside such close, fence, or paling, and a light be kept burning near the same during the night, and so as such bricks, stones, lime, materials, rubbish and dirt, and also such dung, manure, litter, or materials, shall be removed as soon as conveniently may be, by the party throwing, depositing, placing, or leaving the same.

5. That if any person shall sift, screen, or slake, or cause to be sifted, screened, or slaked, any lime in any street, square, court, highway, alley, footway, or public passage or place within the said borough, save within a space protected by a close fence or paling at least eight feet high, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of forty shillings.

6. That if any person shall throw, deposit, place, or leave, or permit or suffer to run or flow, any night-soil, offal, putrid meat or fish, entrails of fish, carrion, dead animals, blood, dung, manure, bones, dust, ashes, refuse of vegetables or fruits, soaper's waste, gas tar, tar or tar water, water or refuse from tanyards, or other offensive matter or thing, into or upon any open or uncovered place within the said borough, whether surrounded by a wall or other fence or not, so as to be a common nuisance, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the

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same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings.

7. That if any person shall, within the said borough, carry a sedan chair, not having a person in it, on any public footway, or shall shake or dust, after eight o'clock in the morning, any carpet, mat, or furniture, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or from any door or window opening into the same, or shall roll, drag, drive, or carry on any public footway, any waggon, cart, dray, wheelbarrow, handbarrow, truck, bier, ladder, or long piece of timber, iron, or stone, or any sacks or bags of corn, flour, or soot, carcases or parts of carcases of animals, furniture, scythes, axes, saws, or other edge-tools, burthens carried by two or more persons, or burthens suspended on both sides of the carrier, or shall ride or drive, on any public footway, any horse, mare, gelding, or cattle, or shall wilfully damage a public footway, or shall project over or upon any public footway any awning which shall impede the passengers, or hang out goods for sale or exhibition, so as to project over any public footway or carriage-way, and to obstruct the passengers in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or shall roll any cask, hogshead, barrel, or tub, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, beyond the extent of the premises in the occupation of the person from or to whose house or building the same shall be rolled, or shall trundle any wheel, hoop, or girth, or shall fly any kite, or slide or skate, or shall hoop, burn, wash, or scald any cask, or empty any cask, barrel, tub, or other vessel, or shall bind, make, or repair any coach-wheel or spring, or shall bait any bull, bear, or badger, or throw at any cock or other fowl, or shall make any bonfire, or burn or dress corkwood, or set off fire-works, or use fire-arms, in or upon any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or shall hang out any linen, or cloth, or wearing apparel, or fish, fruit, butcher's meat, or any other article or thing, at the outside of any house, shop, or warehouse, or at any window, door, or balcony, so as to interfere with the free passage upon any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or shall wilfully break any glass pane in any window, or burn any effigy, or fight or brawl, or excite or join in any fight or brawl, or loiter or remain in any footway or public place, so as to obstruct the free passage along the same, without some reasonable excuse, after having been required by a police-officer to move on, or shall sell, or show, or offer, or expose for sale, any horse, mare, gelding, bull, cow, heifer, ox, swine, or other cattle, or expose for show any stallion in Bridge-street, Church-street, Cannon-street, Bottle-bank, High-street, Bailey-chare, or Meeting-house-lane, within the said borough, or shall sell by auction any goods, chattels, wares, merchandises, or other matter or thing, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or shall exhibit or place any caravan, or other carriage, containing any animal for show, or any other public show, or otherwise exhibit any public show, without the license of the Mayor or two Magistrates of the said borough for the time being, or shall throw or place any offensive matter in or into any stream of water, or in or into any public or private well or pump, or any public or private pond or pool of water or reservoir for water, or shall do, or cause to be done, any injury, damage, or nuisance, in or to any public walk within the said borough, or to any tree, plantation, shrubbery, hedge, post, rail, pale, fence, gate, stile, or seat, near any public walk, or shall cause or permit any other destruction, nuisance, or annoyance, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, public passages, or other public places, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpense; and for a second offence alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alledged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings.

8. That if any person shall permit or suffer to be at large, in any street, square, court, highway, alley, public passage or place within the said borough, any ferocious dog or bitch, not being muzzled, or if any person shall, after public notice given by the Mayor of the said borough for the time being, or any two Justices of the Peace of the said borough for the time being, directing dogs to be confined on suspicion of canine madness, permit or suffer any dog or bitch to go at large in any street, square, court, highway, alley, or public passage or place within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings.

9. That if any engine-driver, stoker, engineer, or other person, shall wilfully or negligently use, conduct, or drive any locomotive or other steam engine, in or near any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, so as to injure or endanger any person or persons, or any property real or personal, or shall, by letting off steam, using the whistle of any engine, or otherwise by means of any such engine, endanger any person, horse, or cattle, in or passing along, or creating alarm in, any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of forty shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five pounds.

10. That if any person shall have any cellar, vault, coalhole, or other underground apartment, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, without a sufficient doorway, hatchway, or flapwindow, grate, stone, plate, or other sufficient covering; or shall negligently, or without a sufficient watch or guard, leave open or unfixed, after sunset, any hatchway, flapwindow, grate, stone, plate, board, or other covering, to any uninhabited cellar, vault, coalhole, or other underground apartment, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or other public passages or places within the said borough, or shall negligently leave unfastened, and not sufficiently secured, any grate, stone, plate, board, or other covering, of any cellar, vault, coalhole, or other underground apartment, in any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay any fine or sum not exceeding five pounds.

11. That if any person shall paste or affix, in or against any dwelling-house, shop, warehouse, building, wall, pillar, lamp-post, or other post, within the said borough, any posting-bill or other paper, after notice from the owner or occupier of such house, shop, warehouse, building, wall, pillar, or post, not to paste or affix thereupon, or shall write upon, or otherwise deface or mark, any such dwelling-house, shop, warehouse, building, wall, pillar, or post, by means of chalk, paint, or any other material, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the some day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings.

12. That if any person shall in any part of the said borough wilfully and indecently expose his or her person, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay any fine or sum not exceeding five pounds for every such offence.

13. That if any person shall sell or distribute any indecent or obscene print, drawing, painting, representation, ballad, pamphlet, or book, in writing or in print, within the said borough, or shall inscribe or write any obscene or indecent figure, repre-

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sentation, word, or words, upon any wall, door, pillar, post, or other place within the said borough, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay any sum not less than twenty shillings nor exceeding forty shillings.

14. That if any person shall in or by the side of any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places, or in any other place within the said borough, cause any dogs to fight, or abet any dog-fight, or bait or abet the baiting of any bull, bear, badger, or other animal, or wantonly and cruelly beat, illtreat, abuse, or torture, any horse, mare, gelding, bull, ox, cow, heifer, steer, calf, mule, ass, sheep, lamb, dog, cat, or other cattle or domestic animal, or shall bowl, or throw, or cast, any stone, bowl, or play at the games called pitch-and-toss, or pitch-halfpenny, shake-cap, or shuffle cap, cards, dice, dominos, or other game of chance, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings.

15. That if any person or persons, having or keeping a shop, room, or cellar, within the said borough, for the sale of meat, oysters, tea, coffee, or other provisions or refreshments, shall knowingly permit or suffer common prostitutes, reputed thieves, or other idle and disorderly persons, to assemble at and continue in his, or her, or their shop, room, or cellar, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any previous offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings.

16. That if any beast, ass, swine, or cattle, shall be found wandering about any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, the owner or owners thereof shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of two shillings and sixpence; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings.

17. That if the owner or occupier of any tenement within the said borough, shall, after seven days' notice in writing, under the hand of the town surveyor or superintendent of the police for the time being of the said borough, neglect or refuse to cleanse or repair any private drain, gutter, or sewer, within such tenement, communicating with any common sewer, or with any channel or gutter, passing upon, across, over, or under any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, the person so neglecting or refusing shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed within seven days after any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay any fine or sum not less than forty shillings and not exceeding five pounds.

18. That if any person shall wilfully throw or cast from the roof, or any other part of any house or other building within the said borough, into any of the streets, squares, courts, highways, alleys, or public passages or places within the said borough, any slate, brick, part of any slate or brick, or any wood, rubbish, or other material, every person so offending shall, for such offence, forfeit and pay the fine or sum of five shillings; and for a second offence, alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as such first offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of ten shillings; and for every offence being subsequent to a second offence, and alleged and proved as such, and not committed on the same day as any prior offence, shall forfeit and pay the fine or sum of twenty shillings.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor.

LETTER XIV.

TO THE COUNTY-RATE-PAYERS OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,—The County Treasurer's accounts for the year ending June 30, 1841, have been published. A document so interesting to every ratepayer ought to be minutely examined; and where any item appears at variance with the strictest principle of economy, or not clearly enough expressed, the attention of the Justices ought to be respectfully but fearlessly called to it. Having, for a length of time, observed the proceedings of the Municipal Body in whose hands is the management of our local financial affairs, and still being determined to assert my right to express an opinion upon their conduct, I propose to lay before you a comparative statement of the expences of the two preceding years; and as the Magistrates have published a Report upon the Memorials which were addressed to them last winter, I shall, in another letter, take a review of that document also. I will not at present allude any further to that Report, than merely to notice, that the Justices have *not* thought fit to agree with the ratepayers in considering the salary of £600, given to Mr. Welch, the Bridge Surveyor, as too large by *one-half*. It is too frequently the case with governing bodies, when they are anxious to make a display of economy and retrenchment, that they begin at the wrong end. The subordinates are ever the first to feel the effects of the pruning knife:—the first-class officers are the fruits of first-class patronage, and the nerve must be more than ordinarily firm which dares to lop off any excrescence from them.

The aggregate payments made out of the county-rate last year, show a decrease upon those made in the preceding year to the amount of £1,591 11s. 5d.; while in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of £1,858 15s. 7d. remained upon the 30th of June last.

Now for a comparison of a few of the principal items.

Every ratepayer soever, whom I have heard give an opinion upon the emoluments of the Clerk of the Peace, has unhesitatingly declared them to be enormous. I do not pretend to an intimate knowledge of the labours that have to be performed in that gentleman's office; but, from the nature of his duties, his labours must be lighter in different years. I suppose the quantity and the *nature* of prosecutions must affect the duties of the Clerk of the Peace. The cost of prosecutions upon last year shows a decrease upon the preceding of £429 8s. 5d. Then does it not seem an anomaly, that Mr. Thorp has received only £17 17s. 1d. *less* than he did the year previous? In the year 1840 he received £1,068 10s. 2d.: in 1841, £1,051 13s. 1d.

Can there be an item produced in the accounts of any Corporation more unsatisfactory than the following? "Robert Thorp, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, for expences incurred under the Act for Amending the Representation of the People in England and Wales, £154 18s. 8d."

The cost of keeping the county bridges in repair* is less in last year by *six hundred and sixty one pounds, seven shillings, and fourpence*, than in the year before. In 1840, the bridges cost £1,020 9s. 6d.: in 1841, £359 2s. 4d. Now, there is not a gentleman in Northumberland but would consider that his agent had the advantage of him, when it was proved that upon £359 landed property, the agent had to be paid £600 per annum for superintending it. "Ah! but," exclaims some admirer of architectural grandeur, "who planned the Stamfordham lock-up? whose master-hand designed the correction-house at Hexham *that is to be*—a fabric that will draw even strokes of admiration from the sarcastic pen of J. R.? Then there are the *plans* of the *intended* alterations of the Moot Hall. Though, *for a season*, locked amongst the archives of the county, they will one day cause the folks of 'cannie' New-

* Has it never appeared to the Bridge Surveyor that Cauledge Park bridge, and its approaches, are capable of great improvement? More than one man has been killed there, by carts running amain down the dangerous precipices. The Noble President of the Humane Society could not object to an indictment being lodged against it, though the railway to his colliery would be interfered with.

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castle to value them at *one thousand pounds.*" Oh yes! we have not forgotten all these. Neither have we forgotten the payments which have been made to Mr. Welch for work done at Morpeth gaol. Disguise your interest as you will, Mr. Welch, under the mallet of George Dodds, you cannot hoodwink the ratepayers that *you* are not the person who had the "making of alterations and various repairs at Morpeth gaol." You were architect, paymaster, and mason; and you may blame yourself if you had a hard bargain. The county masonry ought to be let by open tender, and Mr. Welch should see that the contracts are duly performed.

The police expences for 1841 present a great disparity to those of 1840. In the former year they were £485 15s. 6d.: in the latter, £35 12s. 10d.

The Coroners' expences must necessarily vary with the number of untimely deaths; but might an additional Coroner not be appointed for the south-west part of the county, to reside at Hexham. This would obviate the necessity of sending from the distant parts of the west to Newcastle, where the calls upon the services of Mr. Reed are unfortunately too many already.

The expences under the head of "Gaol, Moot Hall, and Houses of Correction," will be found greater in the year 1841 than in 1840, by £508 8s. 11d. The charges appertaining to Morpeth gaol, *exclusive* of the cost of alterations in the building, exceed in 1841, over 1840, £156 3s. 7d. The cost of materials for prisoners in 1841 amounted to £555, while the receipts upon articles manufactured by them were £479 11s. 1d. Any pecuniary loss to the county, arising from the present highly laudable management of the prisoners, must be amply repaid by the benefits which the whole community must derive by having discharged prisoners thrown upon it, whose minds, under a system of strict discipline, have been brought to a knowledge of the advantages flowing from labour which produces *beneficial* results.

The sanatory state of Alnwick House of Correction, during last year, presents a pleasing contrast to its morbid condition during 1840. In the former year the surgeon received £31 2s.: in the latter, £12 5s. 6d.

The expenses of "Advertising, Printing, Stationery," present a balance in favour of last year of £218 6s. 10d.

The payments made under the head "Weights and Measures" were, in 1840, £171 3s. 10d.: in 1841, £23 12s. 8d. The authorities have been repeatedly called upon, by a Mr. Cowey, of North Shields, to explain what has become of the money received by them in 1840, in the shape of fines levied upon individuals in whose possession deficient weights were detected. The civilities of life, as well as justice both to the ratepayers and the acts of the authorities, demand that Mr. Cowey be given an opportunity to prove what he asserts. Public servants cannot, in this age, shirk inquiry. They may affect to treat with contempt the curiosity which would pry too closely upon them. The "rabble," as the multitude used to be termed, now begin to scale the wall which had too long formed a partition between them and those who have fattened within the included area upon the industry and severe labours of the people. This is an age which is proclaiming war against all monopolies—even against the magisterial monopoly of managing the county rates, and appointing to offices (mere sinecure offices) of £1,000 and £600 per annum. In 1840, an item stands thus—(marked by an asterisk):—"Account of sums received from Inspectors of Weights and Measures, £17 19s. 10½d." Was this sum received in fines arising from deficient weights and measures? If this is the whole that was received from the Inspectors, let Mr. Cowey be shown that he is accusing the Magistrates and their Clerks falsely, when he declares that, as an Inspector, he can prove that the sum paid exceeded £100.

I shall close my remarks upon the accounts with an allusion to those High Constables who have been so fortunate as to prevail upon the Bench to allow them their expences, "incurred in collecting the county-rate." At the last Easter sessions, several of the High Constables made an application to have their expences allowed; but "precedent" was urged on the one hand, and example of the "Great Unpaid" was held up on the other—and the applicants were refused. Then by what means have Messrs. Luke Hindmarsh, Milton, and Michael Carr, wrought a change in the counsels of the quarter sessions? *They* made no public application. Perhaps they adopted a wiser course, and made their approaches, with the utmost circumspection, to the precincts of an office under the influence of an agency more powerful by far than even the whole of the Quorum. When Messrs. Hindmarsh & Carr were allowed their expences, surely it would only have been acting in fairness to have allowed the expences of *all* the High Constables.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

Bywell, Oct. 9, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

BROTHER BURGESSES,—Nearly six years have now elapsed since you first confided to me the important trust of representing you in the Council of this borough; and in the discharge of that trust, I have always protected the rights of your rural Ward, and promoted the interests of the borough, to the best of my ability. My principles are the same now which they were when I *first* became your representative, but circumstances have occurred which determine me no longer to occupy a seat in the Council. I have, therefore, only to thank you for the confidence with which you have so generously honoured me; and, wishing that my successor may possess more talent and ability to serve you than myself—more desire he cannot—I subscribe myself, very respectfully, &c.,

Gateshead, Oct. 14, 1841. WILLIAM ROWNTREE.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN-COUNCIL.

THE three last-named Aldermen in the following table retire from office in November next: those on the left remain until 1844. The two Councillors at the head of each ward-list "go out" this year; the next two, in 1842; and the two at the bottom, in 1843. The number of Council meetings in the past year has been 9.

Ald. Barras attended	8	Ald. Abbot	0
Ald. Brockett	6	Ald. Pollock	9
Ald. Hall	5	Ald. Wilson	9
East Ward.			
Mr. James Hymers	6	Mr. Stephen Forster	4
Mr. John Lister	8	Mr. Thomas Revely	9
Mr. John Potts	7	Mr. Walker Swan	7
West Ward.			
Mr. William Kenmir	9	Mr. Edmund Graham	4
Mr. Thomas Cummins	6	Mr. W. Hymers (Mayor)	8
Mr. Ralph Wylam	8	Mr. John Fairbairn	4
South Ward.			
Mr. William Rowntree*	1	Mr. James Smith	+0
Mr. John Wight	1	Mr. Robert Davis	9
Mr. Robert Robson	0	Mr. George Sowerby	5

* Mr. Rowntree has intimated to the burgesses that he does not intend to offer himself as a candidate for re-election.

\+ Mr. Smith was elected only a few weeks ago, in the room of the late Mr. Joseph Cout, of the Low Fell, who had attended 5 meetings.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

COPIES of the BYE LAWS, made by the Council, for the good rule and government of the Borough, may be had at the Town Clerk's Office, on application by Burgesses: where the WARD LISTS OF BURGESSES for the ensuing year may also be had, 1s. each.—15th Oct., 1841.

If (says M. Arago) we place in a horizontal line a series of figures of which the law is evident (each double the preceding)—

0 3 6 12 24 48 96 192

and afterwards add 4 to each, we shall have a series denoting the relative distances of the planets from the sun, thus:—

6 7 10 16 28 52 100 196

Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus. If 10 represents the distance of the Earth, 4 will be that of Mercury, 7 Venus, 16 Mars, and 52, 100, and 196, the respective distances of Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus. This law was known as far as a hundred years before the discovery of Uranus; and the distance of that planet being found to correspond, affords a very remarkable confirmation of its truth. But it will be observed there will be a deficiency of one term between Mars and Jupiter, and nearly at the proportional distance of 28 from the Sun. This planet was named Ceres; and since, three others have been found—Pallas, Juno, and Vesta, all of which have their orbits so near to each other as to lead astronomers to believe that they are fragments of a larger planet, which had been shattered into pieces by some internal explosion or the shock of a comet.

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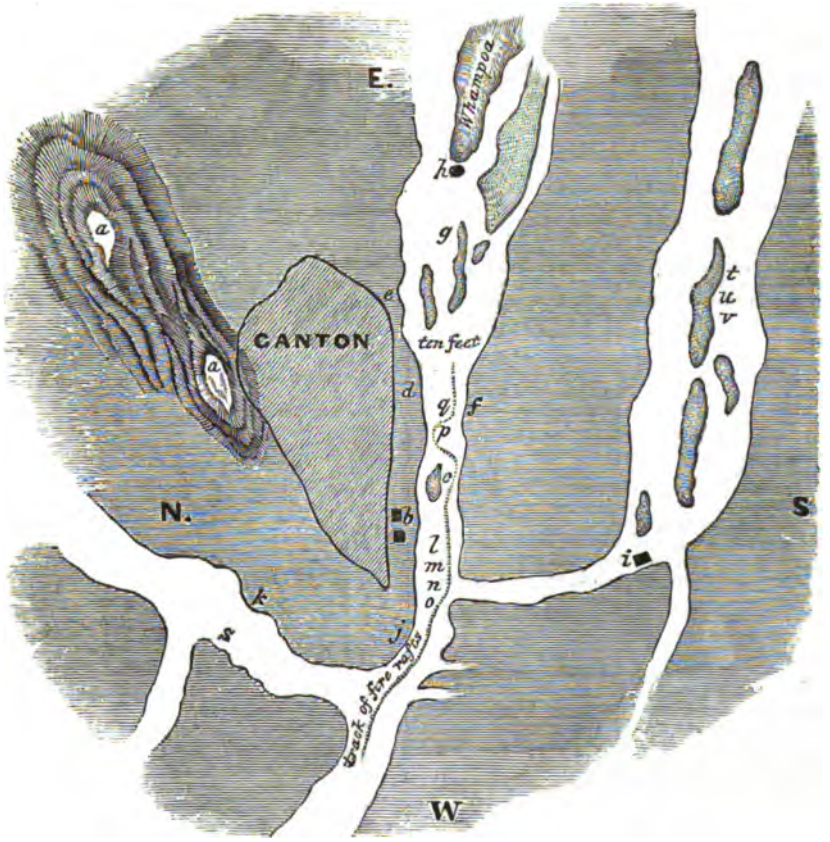
MAP OF CANTON AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

We received, a few days ago, a copy of an "eye" map of Canton and its neighbourhood, explanatory of the recent operations of the British and Chinese forces. It was sketched by the writer of a letter which appears below, and transmitted to this country for the information of his friends. We have had it engraved by Mr. Nicholson, of Newcastle:—and we may now revert to the intelligence recently received, to render the map more serviceable to our readers.

On the 10th of May, Capt. Elliot, the British plenipotentiary, visited the prefect of Canton, to ascertain his intentions, and saw at once that it was idle to look for a continuance of the armistice. The Chinese had been engaged, during the period of simulated peace, in preparing for a fresh rupture. Therefore, on his return to the fleet, May 15, Capt. Elliot countermanded the sailing of the expedition about to start for Amoy; and Sir Humphrey le Fleming Senhouse prepared to move up the river with the fleet on the 18th. On the 21st, the advanced ships being off Canton, the Chinese commenced the attack by a general cannonade, and sent fire-rafts down the river to destroy the British ships. The *Nemesis* steamer towed our vessels clear of those engines of destruction, and opened a tremendous fire from her 32-pounders; while the *Modeste* and *Pylades* kept up a brisk cannonade on the newly-erected fort of Samien, which they destroyed by day-break on the 22d. On the 23d, the forces, naval and military, being off Canton, a conference was held, and a landing planned—which was executed on the 24th. We made known the result in a previous number, and some further particulars will be found in the letter of an officer of the 18th Regt., quoted below:—



a. Hill taken possession of by the troops.
b. Factories.
c. Dutch fort, dismantled on the 18th of March.
d. New batteries.
e. French fort (circular), the only one not dismantled on the 18th of March.
f. Arsenal and dockyard.
g. Napier's fort, } taken at the beginning of March.
h. Howqua's fort, }
i. Macao fort, taken on the 14th of March, and garrisoned ever since by marines.
j. Fort Samien, destroyed by *Modeste* and *Pylades*, May 22.
k. Landing-place for troops, May 24.
l. *Columbine*.
m. *Hyacinth*.
n. *Cruiser*.
o. *Nimrod*.
p. *Algerine*.
q. *Modeste*.
r. *Alligator*.
s. *Sulphur* and *Starling*.
t. u. v. *Blenheim* and transports.

Distances, according to Sir Hugh Gough's Dispatches, June 3.—*Blenheim* distant from Canton, 6 miles. *Sulphur* distant from factories, 5 miles. Factories distant from French circular fort, 2 miles. *Sulphur* distant from the heights (*a*,) 3½ miles.

OPERATIONS AGAINST CANTON.

We have been favoured with the subjoined extract of a letter received on the 15th inst., by a gentleman resident near Gateshead. The writer is a distinguished officer in the Chinese expedition, and dates his communication on board H.M.S. *Pylades*, Canton, Sunday, June 6, and Monday, June 14. He informs his relative—

I have, I am happy to say, got all my Chusan surveying work sent

away to the Hydrographic Office. Rumours that the Chinese (having assembled an army of from 30,000 to 50,000 men, and cast some more guns,) intended recommencing hostilities, it was therefore determined to move up the whole force. Before we got up as high as it was intended the transports should go, we found that they had commenced by trying to burn this vessel, the *Modeste*, and *Algerine*, with 14 fire-rafts, which required a considerable deal of trouble to keep clear. It ended, however, in setting fire to the town in two places, instead of the ships. The rafts were followed by several large junks, laden with soldiers. A few broadsides, however, soon dispersed them; and the *Nemesis*, with the boats of the squadron, next morning destroyed 45 of them, killing and wounding a great many soldiers, who were supposed to have amounted to 2,000. The *Modeste* and this ship, at the same time, silenced and destroyed a battery, which had been annoying them during the night.

By the 24th, the Queen's birthday, all was prepared for landing; and the force consisted of the 18th, 26th, and 49th Regiments, about 1,300 strong; 50 Royal Artillery, 200 Madras ditto, with 12 guns and 4 mortars; 600 marines; 600 of the 37th N.J., 200 sappers and miners, and 600 "blue-jackets." They landed about 4 P M. Of their proceedings I cannot give a particular account, as I was detached with another division of seamen to attack the S.W. end of the city. The Chinese, I believe, drew out to the amount of 10,000; but one charge of the 18th dissipated them. Much difficulty was experienced in getting the guns along, but they succeeded on the second day in planting them on the heights commanding the city. The Chinese fired very well from the walls, close under which they had to pass, and caused a loss of 56 killed and wounded. Amongst the former, I lament to say, is my old friend and messmate, Lieut. Fox, who was with me in the *Chanticleer*.

In the meantime we were not idle. The *Algerine* managed to get through a very narrow and intricate passage, in order to assist us; but they had too many batteries, and were too formidable for our small force; so we waited till dark, and then pushed through and joined her. The following morning we got the *Modeste* through; upon seeing which, they did not offer much resistance, and we took possession of and destroyed 64 pieces of cannon, 3 of which were capable of carrying 10½ inch shot in diameter, and 13 feet long. We set fire to the suburbs on each side of every battery, and kept up a pretty warm cannonade from the ships, by way of stirring the fire up. This, with the appearance of the battery over their heads, at the other side of the town, brought off the Hong merchants, with an offer of a ransom. We have accordingly accepted six millions of dollars, five of which are embarked. The Tartar troops have left the town, and the Imperial Commissioners have gone to Pekin—(so they say).

The *Atalanta*, trying to get through the passage, got ashore, and was in an awkward predicament, being exposed to the sun for two days and to the dews during the night. In trying to get her off, I managed to pick up an ague, which, I am glad to say, has now left me, but I am not quite strong yet.

June 14th.—Poor Sir H Senhouse died yesterday. His loss will be severely felt by his family, and also by the country. One of our surveying officers has been unable to remove from his bed for a fortnight from rheumatism: and another is confined to his cot, in consequence of exposure and great exertion.

(From *Galignani's Messenger*.)

The following highly graphic and interesting letter relating to the operations against Canton, has been communicated to us, and we hasten, notwithstanding its length, to lay it before our readers:—

"We have just returned from a successful and glorious attack upon Canton, from which I escaped untouched. I will try and give you as near an account of it as I can. We were just on the point of starting again for the north, when news came down that they had broken out again at Canton, attacked the factories, plundered them, and driven the merchants away. We immediately got orders to proceed up the river to attack Canton, and the Plenipo (Elliot) for once did not interfere. We were the leading ship up the river, and were one day a-head of the fleet, when we got aground and stuck fast. We worked day and night for three days, but could not stir her; so the steamer was sent down, and we were transhipped. The morning of the 24th May, the Queen's birthday, the boats of the fleet embarked us, and we reached the place of landing that night, and slept in the boats, having previously fired rather more than a royal salute, with shot and shell, at the forts near Canton. We disembarked the next morning, the 25th, at four o'clock, and moved forward to attack four large forts, which commanded the city, being situated on high hills overlooking the town, and two large fortified camps, containing from 4,000 to 5,000 men each. We were delayed for some time, waiting for our guns and rockets to come up, as the ground they had to go through was heavy paddy land, nearly over the wheels in water. About six o'clock, one gun (a howitzer) and the rocket tubes were got into position. All this time the guns from the forts and city walls were not idle, but kept up a hot fire on us, but the ground luckily enabled us to keep a good deal under cover. About half-past seven our guns opened their fire, but apparently did not do much damage. The General, Sir Hugh Gough (my old colonel in the 87th), then came up, and ordered us (the 18th) to storm the fort opposite to us, which was a round one, on a high hill. We were then about half a mile from it. We were obliged to advance through the paddy fields in single file, under a very heavy fire of grape and round shot; my company, the grenadiers, leading. When we got to the bottom of the hill my company halted, formed in skirmishing order, and advanced. They came out to meet us, but we gave them a couple of volleys and drove them from the hill. The regiment then formed in line, and charged up and took the fort, and we hoisted our Queen's colours on the top (the first time it had ever been under fire). Sir Hugh then put himself at our head, and we rattled off at our best pace for the second fort, the old man running at our head waving his hat with one hand, and his stick with the other—he had no sword. We took it with ease, and they ran when they saw us coming in such style. Only two of my company were shot there. It astonished me very much that they made so little resistance, for till we came to close quarters they stood to their guns, and fired splendidly. At first they found they could not hit us, on account of the bad construction of their embrasures; but they soon found that out, and knocked them down, so as to be able to turn the guns upon us. In the meantime the brigade of seamen had stormed and taken the other two forts, with some loss. Immediately after this my company was sent out again to drive in another party that was advancing, and to remain out and skirmish, as our light infantry were protecting the artillery. I had *some beautiful shooting* for about two or three hours. I got leave from my captain to take ten men, and go round a hill to surprise some fellows who were firing at us in front. He kept up a very heavy firing at them, in order to keep up their attention while I got upon them. I got round the hill without being seen, and came upon them lying down, keeping out of the way of the shot in their front. I instantly fired on them, but our men were blown, and so anxious, that they missed them. They started to their feet, fired a few shots at us, which missed, *and we then shot them down deliberately*. I got so close as to be able to get a shot with my pistol, but missed. We killed ten or twelve of them: the rest ran for it. *That was the only close fight any one had the luck to get that day*, as they are armed with a sort of matchlock on three legs, which carries three times as far as our muskets, so that they keep out of our reach, and yet pepper away at us. After that I rejoined the company, and then we had some hot work of it. The bugler sounded the advance to us, when it was intended that he should sound the retreat. We were then in a critical situation, being unsupported, only fifty men in the company. However, we had nothing for it but to go a-head. We moved on as hard as we could, and had to cross two or three fields exposed to a heavy fire from the city walls. We lost two men, and only saved ourselves by the pace we went at. We had some sharp banging, but could not drive them back, as they had got into a village on our left flank, and were beginning to riddle us: we could not show a head above the bank but a volley came at it. My captain then came to me and said—We have nothing for it but charge, and drive them from the village, and send for support—which we did, and drove them out in great style; for which we got great praise. Another company then came to our assistance, but we were obliged to retire a little, which prevented us having the honour of getting first into the camp, which we otherwise should have been, as we had stood the brunt of the day till the regiment advanced and stormed the camp under a heavy fire from the guns of the city. We lost in about a hundred yards of causeway, leading from the village to the camp, 3 officers and 21 men. We immediately set fire to the tents and houses, formed up close column in the centre, and completely destroyed it. It was not the general's intention to have stormed it till night, but we had gradually edged near it, and at last made a dash at it, and carried it. Our regiment's loss that day was the most of any—3 officers and 21 men wounded, and 3 men killed. The total loss of our force, which was only 3,000 men, amounted to 90 killed and wounded. The Chinese own to 1,200 killed and wounded. We then returned to the fort we had taken, and remained for the night within 150 yards of the city. We were under fire from five o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock at night: they ceased firing from the city about eight. Next day, the 26th, we did nothing, as the ammunition had not come up, except to station men under cover to fire at every one who showed his head on the city walls, our fort completely

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overlooking the town. We prepared the scaling-ladders, and got everything ready for the attack. On the morning of the 27th, at eight o'clock, our guns being ready to breach and the rocket brigade to burn, just as we were going to open our fire, they showed white flags on all the walls opposite us. Sir Hugh Gough himself advanced unarmed, with only one interpreter, and under the very city walls, which was a courageous thing for him to do, as we have had plenty of proofs already that the Chinese only respect the flag of truce when it suits them. They asked for a truce of two days to send to the Plenipo, which was granted, much to our disgust, as we were wound up for the attack. The general was not sorry to grant this delay, as all the ammunition was not up, little thinking what was to be the consequence. The morning of the 29th, the time being up, the general walked down to the batteries, to give orders for the attack. Some small delay took place in altering the position of one of the rocket tubes, when an officer came up with a letter from the Plenipo, saying he had made terms with them and ordering us to spare the city. *The general stamped the letter under his feet with rage.* Of course there was no remedy, as he is Plenipo. The terms were that they would pay down six millions of dollars if we would spare the town; that the whole of the Tartar troops should lay down their arms, and march sixty miles from the city, without the honours of war; and that we should occupy the commanding position we held till the money was paid. These terms Elliot accepted, although the general objected. We remained in the forts till the 1st of June, which was mighty pleasant, as we had no shelter, and the days were tremendously hot, and at night the rain fell in torrents. I never changed my things the whole time, except my shirt, as I luckily brought a clean one, but never took off boots or trowsers for seven days, lying on the ground, yet I never was better in my life—the excitement kept us all right. The men are sickly, now it is all over. It was a hot week's work for young soldiers. I can assure you *the sensation of being shot at is not pleasant at first, though it soon wears off*, especially when you are going a-head. My company had the hottest of it all day, as we led the way: so much for being a grenadier. We expect to get the six millions, or at least part, as prize money, but nobody can tell: if we do, it will give me £200 or £300, not a bad day's work. We none of us thought of making our wills before going into action, as we had no idea it would have been such sharp work; but now some of us have thought proper to do it, as we expect to be at it again in about a fortnight. I have made mine, but was sorely puzzled how to do so, as I have not an idea what my worldly wealth consists in beyond my kit and a chance of some prize money: therefore, as you may suppose, it is not a very lawyer-like production, but I suppose it will answer the purpose if I should get knocked over. However, I trust to be able to show it you myself some day, and take to shooting grouse instead of Chinamen. Our fellows behaved like Irishmen—that is saying enough. The only difficulty was to restrain them, and their firing was rather wild, as they are raw to their work and too anxious. I had several narrow escapes. We have lost two fine young fellows, (one the right-hand man of my company,) from lock-jaw, occasioned by their wounds, which were slight, which makes us regret it the more. Our quartermaster-general dropped dead in the field: the great heat and fatigue occasioned apoplexy. Poor old man! We buried him privately, near the forts. It was a solemn scene, none but officers attending. It was dark. An officer read the service over him, by the light of a single candle. We were afraid of attracting the notice of the Chinamen, who would have dug him up after we had left, as there is a large price offered for an officer's head. I saw the head Mandarin of Canton, and all the other great men, at a conference under the walls, our company being the general's guard of honour. Whatever the Chinese may think of our fighting, I am sure they could not admire our dress: my trowsers were split right across behind—I had to tie a handkerchief round my waist: one knee cut across, and the other leg torn, and showing evident marks of where the night had been passed, viz., in the mud. None of us were much better. We had a brigade of seamen doing duty on shore. Jack confesses he did not admire doing soldier. We start for Amoy in about a week. We are sure of having anything to do that is to be done, as Sir Hugh is an Irishman, and stands by his boys. I have not told him I belonged to his old regiment: perhaps if I did he might give me something, but at present all places are full."

(From the *Morning Chronicle*)

Of the naval and military commanders serving their country at the other side of the globe, and one of them (Sir Humphrey Senhouse) unhappily dying in her service, far be it from us to say one inconsiderate word. They were gallant officers both—both governed by a truly English sense of duty. There is no fault to be found with them. But it was to be expected that immediate military achievement should be uppermost in their thoughts, and that ultimate consequences should weigh too lightly with them in the moment of success, when the capture of a great city seemed to be within their reach. That their opinion should have been in favour of taking Canton was most natural, and this only shows that the opinion to which theirs yielded so reluctantly must have been more firmly held, and founded upon stronger convictions. Indeed, it would not be easy to conceive any circumstances in which a man would require a stronger faith in his own convictions, or a more resolute determination to act up to his sense of duty, than those in which Captain Elliot was placed, when he felt it to be right to spare Canton, in opposition to the views and interests and the honourable prejudices of every one around him, and to the feelings of a naval and military armament flushed with success, in opposition also to his own interests; for he could not but very well know that glory and popularity were to be won by striking blows, and not by the higher energies of forbearance. There may be traced through all Captain Elliot's proceedings that are known to us, one steady and consistent policy; pursued through means and courses as various as have been the vicissitudes he had to meet, but at all times steadily respective of one end and purpose—to extort reparation from the Chinese government, without hurting or alienating the people. And we can see also throughout his proceedings a firm determination not to plant a foot upon the mainland of China if he could help it; well knowing, doubtless, what the first step in continental warfare might cost. "*Confugien lum est ad Imperium*," said Mucianus, in his dilemma. Such has been the history of the Anglo-Indian empire, and such, in this most critical conjuncture, might very easily be the beginning of an Anglo-Chinese empire. In firmly and bravely carrying out the policy which he considered to be for the general and permanent interests of his country, Captain Elliot has had to conflict with many local interests, with professional interests, and with high functionaries, from whom it must have been deeply painful to him to differ. He has acted amidst an incessant hubbub of opposing voices, and he has been continually slandered and reviled by the local press, in which local clamours found their natural echo. For support through all this he had to look to his country, whose true interests he was endeavouring to serve, at whatever cost of local opposition. Ill, indeed, is that country represented by the portion of its press which, for want of better guidance, has simply made itself the echo's echo, and resounds with nothing but the outcries of disappointed opium merchants at Calcutta or Canton. But thus it is:—when there are striking events men think that they must have strong opinions, whether they have the means of forming them or not: they snatch at anything that they can find, and on a great national question, on which national and provincial interests conflict, half the press of this country is led by the *Bombay Times*.

THE DURHAM SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 30.

The County business at these Sessions was begun to be transacted at 10 o'clock this forenoon, before a very full Bench of Magistrates. We subjoin a summary of the principal matters determined on.

The visiting Justices reported the gaol to be in a satisfactory state, and that several suggestions made by one of the inspectors of prisons had been carried into effect.

The Auditors' report showed a balance of £2764 due the county; and recommended a rate of a halfpenny in the pound to meet the current expenses of the quarter. In the constabulary force account there was a balance of £363 due the county; and they recommended that a like sum of one halfpenny in the pound should be collected to defray the expenses of the force for the present quarter. The Auditors then begged to remark that in their opinion coroners' inquests were held, in some cases, unnecessarily—as when death occurred from asthma, consumption, and other chronic diseases; and they also thought

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that the charge for mileage, both with respect to distance and amount, required the attention of the Bench.

A good deal of discussion followed upon the questions of inquests and mileage; and the whole matter was referred to Messrs. E. Backhouse, W. L. Wharton, and Rowland Burdon, as a Committee, with instructions to report to the next sessions.

Mr. Marshall Fowler resumed his notice of motion (for the second time), that the county business should be transacted on Tuesday, the second, instead of on Wednesday, the last day of the session.

Sunderland was remodelled as a division for holding petty sessions, both for the sake of definitiveness, and to embrace Seaham harbour for the purpose of speedy adjudication, particularly in the cases of seamen disputing with their masters respecting wages.

The Bridge Surveyor's Report noticed several bridges in which improvements had been completed, and mentioned others to which damage, more or less, had been caused by the late floods, which in some cases had risen higher than the water was observed to rise in 1771.

A long report was presented from the Chief Constable (Major Wemyss), in which, by anticipation, he controverted the statements of a petition which has been circulated, and rather extensively signed, throughout the county, during the last few weeks. One of the main allegations of the petition was that the expense of prosecutions had been increased since the force was established; but the Major showed that the charge on this head was £524 less in 1840 than it was in 1839, when the new force did not exist. He replied to other statements, in proof of their want of foundation; and spoke in strong terms of the efficiency and orderly demeanour of the whole constabulary establishment.

A batch of nearly 180 petitions, from as many townships, were then handed round the table, and the magistrates engaged themselves in examining the signatures; which were all appended to one printed form, and between 5,000 and 6,000 in number. The quality, however, was not deemed commensurate with the quantity. In some cases, the names did not include one person in a township whom the magistrates in whose district it was knew to be a rate-payer; and in others, numbers of names were in the hand-writing of one individual. In a petition from Hylton ten parties described themselves as "farmours." Six other names appeared on the same memorial; but the whole sixteen had evidently been written by one individual. On the other hand, the Rev. Mr. Merest and Capt. Dinsdale spoke to some petitions from their neighbourhood (about Staindrop and that quarter) containing the genuine signatures of nearly all the rate-payers in the townships. It was suggested by the Chairman (J. W. Williamson, Esq.) that the magistrates of the several districts should take the several petitions from townships embraced by them, and ascertain the condition and actual circumstances of the signaturists; but this was superseded by a resolution moved by

Mr. Rowland Burdon, and seconded by Mr. E. Backhouse, to the effect that it appeared to the magistrates the petitions were founded on mistaken grounds, as to the general expense of the police force, the cost of prosecutions, &c.; and the magistrates therefore felt satisfied that sufficient grounds had not been set forth for the discontinuance of the force.—On this motion being put, there were 14 hands held up for, and only 2 (Messrs. Merest and Dinsdale's) against it.

It was understood that permission was given to the magistrates who hold their petty sessions at the Goat inn, Gateshead, to agree with the borough magistrates to sit in their town-hall, on payment of a rent of £12 yearly; and thus get rid of the objectionable public-house sittings altogether.

Fifty pounds were voted to the County Treasurer (Mr. Trotter) for the additional trouble occasioned by keeping the accounts of the constabulary force for two years, ending in January next; and

Mr. Backhouse gave notice of motion, for the next sessions that the salary of the Treasurer should be increased from £112 to £200 (including every duty and expense), on the ground that he is now inadequately remunerated for the labour he is required to perform.

The Bench gave their assent to the resolutions passed by the Town Council of Berwick in 1838, affirming the desirableness of an agreement being come to with the latter for the maintenance and trial of offenders in Norham and Islandshire; provided the same were approved of by the local magistrates, in a report which they were requested to make to the next sessions.

The other business which came before the Justices was of minor importance.

The official statement, published in connection with the Durham calendar of the present week, supplies the following facts:—The number of persons committed to the gaol and house of correction (debtors included), in the year ending Michaelmas, 1840, was 1,373: in the year ending Michaelmas 1841, 1,388: in the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1840, 375: in the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1841, 335. The number of prisoners in confinement on the eve of the sessions was 225: the number confined at the same period in 1840, 190. Of 35 prisoners, whose educational qualifications were described in the calendar, it appears that 1 could read and write well; 9 could read; 15 could read and write imperfectly; and 10 could neither read nor write.

The question of the disposal of the old poor-house in this borough being one on which much difference of opinion has arisen, we refer to the view taken of this subject by the late Attorney-General. That learned gentleman gave a decided "opinion" *against* the right of the ratepayers to the property, which will be found in another column.

Mr. Christopher S. Bell has taken five shares in the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms.

Mr. C. J. Pearson has become a candidate for the representation of the South Ward, Gateshead, in the place of Mr. William Rowntree, the retiring Councillor. Mr. Barnard has announced himself in the West Ward, so that we shall have a contest there, Messrs. Kenmir and Cummins, the present Councillors, being candidates for re-election.

The promoters of the "Gateshead Public Rooms," thanks to the excellent example set the mother-town by the Fell, are again on the alert, and, we trust, with prospect of success. A meeting of the committee was held in the town-hall, on Monday evening last, (the Mayor in the chair,) when several sites were considered, and a resolution adopted to apprise the several parties that offers from them would be considered by the committee. It was also resolved to request the Boroughholders to take out the site they had offered on the Windmill Hills, so that the whole might be fully considered. A trifling call to meet the current expence, was also made, and the warmest wishes were expressed towards the object by all persons present.—Oct. 23.

We are glad to find that preparations are to be made by the supporters of the Gateshead soup-kitchen, to meet the large demand which, we have too much reason to fear, will be made upon them by the poor, during the approaching winter. A meeting for the purpose of erecting suitable apparatus has been convened by the Mayor, and we trust its object will be immediately effected.

The members and friends of the Royal Oak Court, 1,094, held their first anniversary on Monday, at Host Fulton's, Wheat Sheaf inn, in this borough. When the worthy Foresters had disposed of a good supper, the chair was taken by Brother William Cowen, C.R., who gave the usual loyal toasts, with several others, appropriate to the occasion. Brother J. Atkinson, D.S., filled the vice-chair.

TENEMENT PROPERTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

Sir,—You would confer a public benefit, by means of your newspaper, were you to draw the attention of our Town-Council to the immense and increasing quantity of property in the borough which pays no rates whatever, but only enables a few sly old codgers to line well their breeches-pockets, and laugh at the gullibility of the industrious ratepayer. We shall have nothing but *tenemented* property left shortly. How will the rates be obtained then? List! oh! list.

[Is it not the *overseers* that are at fault? We are of opinion, with our correspondent, that no exceptions should be made—and such is also the law. The rate is invalid, and any one may with impunity refuse to pay it, if rateable property be omitted from the book. The plea on which illegal exemptions are made, is the poverty of tenants; but the plea is unsound—it is the landlord that profits by the exemption.]

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NORTHERN UNION RAILWAY.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BRANDLING JUNCTION COMPANY.

On Monday last, a special general meeting of the Brandling Junction Railway Company, was held at the office in Gateshead, "for the purpose of taking into consideration a proposal that the said Company should unite with certain other Railway Companies in taking a lease (upon certain terms to be submitted to the meeting) of a Railway proposed to be made from Darlington, in the county of Durham, to join the Durham Junction Railway, in the same county; and of adopting such measures in reference thereto as might appear advisable."

Dr. Headlam was in the chair, and the following gentlemen were present—The Rev. Robert Green, and Messrs. Robert William Brandling, John Brandling, Nicholas Wood, A. Nichol (J.P.), William Mountain, A. Donkin, Ralph Naters, C. F. Jackson, George Freeman, Thomas Dixon, R. Coulthard, Robert Rayne, George Burnett, John Carr, Tony Waller, G. T. Railston, J. B. Mason, H. C. Armstrong, William Proctor, James Lewis Cafferata, Matthew Plues, John Marley, M. Hogg, Thomas Dodd, J. Davidson, James Kirkley, and E. Richardson.

The Chairman read the notice convening the meeting, and called upon Mr. Nicholas Wood, the Company's Engineer, to bring forward the business of the day.

Mr. Wood then rose, and said:—It would be in the recollection of the shareholders, that they subscribed, some time ago, in conjunction with the Durham Junction and Stanhope and Tyne Companies, towards the expense of making arrangements and depositing plans for a railway from the Great North of England line at Thrislington, to the Durham Junction Railway. That was partly done under a supposition that the Great North of England Railway Company would never execute their proposed line northward by Chester-le-Street. Accordingly, when the Great North of England Railway was completed to Darlington, it became a question with that Company whether or not the line by Chester-le-Street should be adhered to or abandoned; and at the suggestion of their present engineer (Mr. Stephenson), it was determined that that part of the line should *not* be executed. A project was then set on foot, to establish an unbroken railway-communication between Darlington and Newcastle, through the co-operation of certain Railway Companies, forming or interested in the eastern lines of railway from Rugby to Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Scotland;* and several meetings had been held, in Newcastle, York, and Darlington, in promotion of this object. The shape which the plan had assumed was this:—That a distinct Company should be formed, to undertake the formation of a line from Darlington by Thrislington to the Durham Junction, along which they would pass to the Stanhope and Tyne Railway, and then onward to the Brandling Junction, and so on to Gateshead. The line from Darlington to the Durham Junction would be 22½ miles in length, and the cost was estimated at £500,000. The Act of the Great North of England Railway would be taken so far as it went, and thus the new Company could go on with the execution of the line as soon as an Act was attained for financial purposes—which, most probably, would be in April next. And the plans, as before stated, were deposited for the remainder of the distance; so that the Act for the entire line might be obtained at the same time. The whole could be completed, Mr. Stephenson believed, in two years from the present time. The co-operating Railway Companies were to take a lease of the line for ten years from its opening, and guarantee such an amount of revenue as would yield the shareholders 6 per cent. per annum for the ten years in question. The shareholders would also receive 6 per cent. during the period of execution, but this would be paid from the capital. On the expiration of the lease, the shareholders would take, of course, whatever per centage the traffic of the line might yield. The cost of the railway, he had stated, was estimated at £500,000; which, at 6 per cent., would require £30,000 per annum.

The Midland Counties Company were to guarantee..	£3,000
The North Midland.....	6,000
The York and North Midland	8,000
The Manchester and Leeds	3,000
And the Companies North of York	10,000
Making the total sum of.....	£30,000

At an adjourned meeting of Directors from the foregoing Companies, held in York, the North Midland and the York and North Midland Companies gave in their adhesion to the proposed guarantee. The Directors from the Manchester and Leeds Company said they had no doubt that the shareholders would join in the scheme. The Midland Counties Company had not yet finally determined what course they would pursue; but if they declined to guarantee their assigned proportion of £3,000, other Companies would undertake to guarantee this sum, in addition to their proportions. Of the £10,000 to be guaranteed by the Companies north of York, the Great North of England Company agreed to guarantee £8,000, leaving £2,000 to be provided for by the Newcastle and Carlisle, the Durham Junction, and the Brandling Junction Companies, as they might agree among themselves; and on Saturday last, at a meeting of the Directors of those Companies, (Mr. Brandling in the chair,) it was arranged that the Newcastle and Carlisle should guarantee £500, and the Brandling Junction and Durham Junction £750 each; so that the whole amount of the guarantee was arranged, provided it met with the concurrence of the shareholders of the respective Companies. The Directors of the new Company were, in the first instance, to be appointed by the shareholders of the several co-operating Companies; and at the general meeting of Directors at York, it was resolved that the Brandling Junction, Durham Junction, and Newcastle and Carlisle Companies, should have the appointment of two Directors, in such manner as they might think proper. But at the meeting of Saturday last, a resolution was passed to obtain, if possible, an additional Director—one for each of the three Companies. If this could not be accomplished, then it was considered that the Newcastle and Carlisle Company should appoint one of the two Directors, and the Durham and Brandling Junctions the others. At the expiration of the ten years' lease, the appointment of Directors would pass, of course, from the guaranteeing Companies to the shareholders of the new Company. Meanwhile, there would be twelve Directors, of whom the York and North Midland were to appoint four, the North Midland two, the Manchester and Leeds one, the Great North of England three, and (as he had already said) the Newcastle and Carlisle, Dur-

* The resolutions of the Railway Representatives, who met in York on the 6th ult., were as follows:—

"1. That this meeting is strongly impressed with the necessity of making every exertion to extend the line of railway communication from Darlington to Newcastle, as the best means of ultimately securing a continuous eastern line from London to Edinburgh.

"2. That such extension is not only of great importance to several of the existing railways both north and south of York, but public convenience imperatively requires the additional accommodation that would be thereby afforded.

"3. That the most advantageous mode of attaining this object would be to adopt the projected continuation of the Great North of England line (for which an Act is already obtained) from Darlington, for about 15 miles; and then to form a new line (for which plans have already been lodged) to the Durham Junction Railway, from which point to Newcastle there is now a communication by existing railways.

"4. That from the report of Mr. R. Stephenson it appears that the entire cost of the proposed railway will not exceed £500,000.

"5. That although this meeting is perfectly satisfied that the proposed line, from the comparative cheapness of its formation, and the large traffic it must necessarily command, would be a profitable undertaking to its proprietors; yet, in the present depressed state of the money market, it does not seem probable that the requisite number of shares would be taken, if offered in the ordinary way, by the public at large; and, under these circumstances, they recommend the following plan for forming a proprietary, and raising the necessary capital:- 1. The capital to be £500,000, to be divided into 20,000 shares of £25 each. 2. The under-mentioned companies to take a lease of the new railway for a term of ten years from its opening, and to guarantee the rent in the proportions hereinafter specified; and each company to have shares allotted to it, to offer to its respective shareholders, in proportion to the amount of rent to be guaranteed by each company, which is as follows:—York and North Midland, £8,000; North Midland, £6,000; Manchester and Leeds, £3,000; Midland Counties, £3,000; Great North of England, Newcastle and Carlisle, Durham Junction, and Brandling Junction, £10,000.—N.B. The four last companies to settle amongst themselves their respective quotas of guarantee previously to the adjourned meeting. 3. The rent reserved by the lease to be sufficient to pay 6 per cent. to the shareholders, and interest after that rate to be paid out of the capital to the shareholders upon each call from the time of its being paid.

"6. That it is desirable that application be made to parliament in the ensuing session for an Act for the proposed new railway.

"7. That the Chairman and two of the Directors of the York Board, and one of the Directors from each of the other Boards, form a provisional committee for forwarding the objects of the above resolutions."

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ham Junction, and Brandling Junction, two—or (if it could be effected) three. This arrangement, however, was subject to the approval of the several bodies of shareholders. He would now say a few words as to the nature and propriety of the guarantee. The parties advancing the money, he had previously stated, were to receive their per centage out of the subscribed capital, while the railway was in progress of formation. The guarantee was only to commence on the opening of the line for traffic; and if the line did not pay 6 per cent., then the difference between that per centage and the revenue actually realized, would be what the guaranteeing Companies would have to pay. He (Mr. Wood), in conjunction with Mr. Harrison, of the Durham Junction, had taken great pains to ascertain the probable amount of traffic on the line; and their joint opinion was, that the guarantee would be nothing—a mere name; for the concern, they fully believed, would pay at least 6 per cent. immediately. His (Mr. Wood's) own conviction was, that if the line could be formed for £20,000 per mile—(and he believed it could)—the risk of the guarantee would be trifling indeed. He need hardly say, that the new line would be of peculiar advantage to the Brandling Junction Railway. Brockley Whins would become a central station of great importance, for Sunderland, Shields, and Gateshead. The line would give them thorough traffic to a great extent, and also open out to this Company a locomotive communication with all the surrounding district—Durham, Hartlepool, Stockton, &c. The income from this local traffic would be considerable; and if the thorough traffic were anything like what it was on the Great North of England Railway, they would derive from this source about £30 per mile per week.

The Rev. R. Green wished to know if the liability of the guaranteeing Companies would be confined to the sum of £500,000? If the line cost more, who would have to find the surplus?

Mr. Wood: The demand upon the different Companies might fall short of £30,000 a-year—there was no likelihood of its exceeding that sum.

Mr. Plues: In that case, there could be no objection to the guarantee; but the Brandling Company must insist upon the appointment of a Director.

Mr. Brandling: At the meeting in York, it was never contemplated that the guarantee should exceed £20,000 a-year.

The Chairman: And at the meeting of the Brandling Directors, this morning, it was fully determined, in accordance with the wish now expressed by Mr. Plues, that this Company should have the appointment of one Director.

Mr. Plues: If the line should cost double the sum estimated, would the several Companies be liable to pay 6 per cent. on the whole outlay?

Mr. R. W. Brandling: Oh no.

Mr. Plues: The advantages of the line to this Company would undoubtedly be great. Even the short line to the Victoria Bridge had brought in £20 a-week to the Brandling Railway. How much more, therefore, would they not realize by the opening of a line to Darlington.

Mr. Donkin: It would no doubt be the most important thing that had happened to the Brandling Railway. And the guarantee, he believed, would be nothing. He did not say this lightly: he had inquired into the matter with some attention.

The Rev. R. Green: The Companies, it was stated, were to have shares in the new line in proportion to the respective sums guaranteed. Was each Company to take these shares in its corporate capacity? or were the shareholders to take them individually?

Mr. Donkin: The shareholders individually. They would have the first offer of the shares, but they might take them or not as they chose: there would be no compulsion.

Mr. Wood (in reply to a shareholder): The North of England Railway averaged £22 per mile per week, by its thorough traffic. The Brandling Railway had fifteen miles in its three sections, each of which sections would take a portion of the additional traffic. If, then, they calculated upon £20 per mile per week for five miles, this would give an income of £150 per week, or nearly £8,000 a year, exclusive of local traffic.

Mr. R. W. Brandling: And £15 a-week would more than cover the Company's guarantee.

The Chairman (after further conversation) stated, that the Directors had prepared a resolution for the consideration of the meeting, which he would read to the assembled shareholders:—

"That this Company approve of the plan of uniting with several other Railway Companies, in taking a lease for ten years of an intended new railway, to connect Darlington with Newcastle, at such a rent as will secure to the shareholders in the projected undertaking six per cent. per annum; and the Directors are hereby authorized to guarantee such proportion of the rent, and adopt such measures in reference thereto as may be deemed advisable, provided that one of the members of this Company, to be chosen by the Directors thereof, be appointed a Director of the Company to be formed for carrying the said undertaking into effect."

Mr. Plues suggested that something should be said about a communication with Newcastle—a bridge from the Brandling Junction to the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway. This should be made a condition.

Mr. John Brandling: Not a condition, but it might be mentioned.

Mr. Wood: It would be more desirable to omit the subject altogether. The great object, in the first instance, was to bring a railway direct to the station at Gateshead. The question of a bridge uniting it with Newcastle, more properly belonged to the extension of the railway into Scotland. At the present time, there were various opinions as to the spot at which the bridge should cross the Tyne. Persons who were friendly to the new line from Darlington, differed on the subject of the bridge; and to name it in the resolutions of this meeting, would only, he feared, throw an unnecessary obstacle in the way of the present project.

Mr. Mason moved the adoption of the resolution read by Dr. Headlam, and Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

The Rev. R. Green suggested the insertion of words limiting the responsibility of the several Companies to the payment of £30,000 per year interest; and a short discussion having ensued, the words "upon the amount of their proposed capital of £500,000," were inserted after "six per cent. per annum." The resolution was then passed unanimously.

Mr. Mason rose to move a second resolution, namely:—"That the Directors merit the approbation and warmest thanks of the shareholders, for the energy and ability recently displayed, by establishing a prudent system of economy, and by furthering every measure calculated to promote the interests of the Company." Nothing (said Mr. M.) could be more honourable to the Directors than their refusal to accepte the remuneration voted to them by the shareholders. He was one of those who had opposed that vote, but when the economical measures now in operation placed the Company in a condition properly to remunerate the Directors, he should be most happy to press upon them the acceptance of a recompense to which they would be justly entitled. (Applause.)

Mr. Jackson having seconded the motion, Mr. Plues observed, that it was hardly relevant to the business of the meeting: he took this objection without any intention of disrespect to the Directors—he simply demurred to the relevancy of the motion, expressing no opinion upon its substantial merits, either one way or the other.

The meeting, however, overruled the objection, and the motion was carried *nem. con.* The shareholders then separated.

GATESHEAD SOUTH-WARD ELECTION.

A REQUISITION to the Aldermen of the South Ward is in course of signature for a PUBLIC MEETING, to consider of proper persons to represent the Ward. The Electors in the meantime are requested to withhold the promise of their votes.—Sheriff Hill, Oct. 22, 1841.

GATESHEAD PUBLIC ROOMS.

A CALL of one Shilling per Share having been made upon the Shareholders, it is requested that the same may be paid forthwith to the Treasurer, Wm. Wylam, Esq.

By Order,
WILLIAM KELL,
Gateshead, Oct. 18, 1841. Secretary.

GATESHEAD SOUP KITCHEN.

A MEETING of Persons favourable to the fitting-up of suitable premises for the Soup Kitchen, in lieu of those in the Poor-House about to be pulled down, is requested in the Town-Hall, on Monday the 25th instant, at six o'clock.

Gateshead, Oct. 18th, 1841. WM. HYMERS, Mayor.

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NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SOCIETY.

THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the Members and Friends of this Society will be held in NELSON-STREET CHAPEL, on WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, the 3d November, when the REV. J. E. GILES, of Leeds, is expected to attend and narrate his recent Mission to Denmark, on behalf of the Parties suffering Persecution for Conscience' Sake at Copenhagen, and also give an Account of the Efforts of JOSEPH JOHN GURNEY, Esq., and Mrs. FRY, for the same object.

☞ The Chair will be taken at half-past 6 o'clock.

A Collection will be made in Aid of the Society's Funds, one-half of which will be appropriated to the Relief of the persecuted Baptists of Denmark.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

AUTUMN COURSE OF LECTURES. ELECTRICITY AND ITS RELATED BRANCHES.

A Course of FIFTEEN LECTURES on the above subject will be delivered in the Society's Lecture Room, in November next, by ROBERT ADDAMS, Esq. The Course will comprise Three Divisions.

1st.—Frictional Electricity, in which the various Phenomena of Ordinary Electricity will be described, and the most recent Discoveries detailed, as Steam Electricity, &c. The Lecturer will also describe the various kinds of Ship and House Lightning Guards, Professor Wheatstone's Mirror for Measuring the Velocity of Lightning, &c., &c.

2nd.—Electro Chemistry and Galvanism. In this Division will be described the application of Voltaic Powers in the Arts, as the Copying of Medals, &c.

3rd Division.—Magnetic Electricity, its various Phenomena.

The Course will be illustrated by numerous Experiments, and by a most complete Set of Apparatus, which will be brought purposely by the Lecturer.

The Lectures will be delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, commencing on Monday, the 1st November.

ADMISSION:—Free to Members. To Non-Members—For the Course, Gentlemen each, £1 1s.: Gentlemen under 21, and Ladies, each 10s. 6d. Single Admission, 2s. 6d.

Tickets and the Syllabus of the Lectures to be had of the Librarian at the Society's Rooms.

JOHN ADAMSON,
JOHN TROTTER BROCKETT, } Secretaries.

Westgate-street, 13th October, 1841.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Burgesses enrolled in the several Wards of the said Borough, will, on MONDAY the first day of November next, openly assemble in their respective Wards, and elect from the persons qualified to be Councillors, TWO COUNCILLORS IN EACH WARD, to supply the places of those Councillors who on that day shall, according to the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Reform Act, go out of office.

The Election in each Ward will be held before the Alderman and Assessors thereof, at the places undermentioned, which have been appointed for that purpose, that is to say:—

For the EAST WARD—The Justice Room in the Town Hall, in Oakwellgate.

For the WEST WARD—A room in the House, No. 176, High-street, west side, being the Committee Room of the Gateshead Dispensary.

For the SOUTH WARD—The National School, in Kell's Lane, on Gateshead Fell.

The voting at each election will commence at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and will finally close at four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day: but the presiding officer is authorized to close the poll at any time before four o'clock, if one hour shall have elapsed, during which no vote shall have been tendered for any candidate.

WILLIAM KELL, TOWN CLERK.

Gateshead, October 22, 1841.

TO MR. C. J. PEARSON.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, do hereby respectfully request you to allow yourself to be but in Nomination for the office of Councillor for the South Ward of Gateshead, which becomes vacant on the first of the ensuing month.

Ralph Lamb	Jacob Gowland
John Miller	Samuel Brewis
Thomas Pattison	D. T. Watson
Smipson Rutherford	Richard Nixon
John Hunter	George Kirkley
Foster Fairlamb	Ephraim Patterson.
Robert Whinham	J. B. Makepeace
John Brown	Stephen Richardson
George Jewitt	John Simpson
Jonathan Lumsdon	John Bell
Joseph Crasswell	Samuel Harbottle
Matthew Robson	William Jobling
George Sharp	Thomas Patterson
John Pallister	John Patterson
Peter Pallister	John Bousfield
William Spraggon	

Gateshead, Oct. 19, 1841.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE SOUTH WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—Having received the above Requisition, and Mr. Rowntree having already declared his intention of not again presenting himself to your notice, I beg respectfully to offer myself as a Candidate for the forthcoming vacancy, and request the honour of your support.

Should I be elected to the Office by your Suffrages, I assure you it will ever be my study and endeavour, to the best of my ability, unbiassed by party or personal considerations, to promote the general interest and welfare of the Borough; and fully aware of the growing importance of the Town, and that it is only requisite that the resources of the place should be brought into operation under a wise and judicious regulation, to ensure and increase its prosperity, all measures having for their object this end will receive my best attention and support.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

Ellison-street, Oct. 20, 1841. C. J. PEARSON.

TO DANIEL ROBSON, ESQ.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, do hereby respectfully request you to allow yourself to be put in nomination for the office of Councillor for the South Ward of the Borough of Gateshead, which becomes vacant on the first of November.

Thomas Ferguson	John Wright
John Pattison	Lionel Robson
Joshua Parkinson	Thomas Liddlell
Robert Hetherington	James Smith
John Marshall	Richard Errington
Thomas Patterson	M. R. Legge
Robert Clement	William Dineley
David Fiddes	James Grey Soppet
Benjamin Brunton	Thomas Hewitt
Joseph Burnell	Algernon Akenhead
John Cook	George Brown
David Colling	Matthew Plummer
John Scaife	Samuel Barras
George Barras	John Pattinson
Joseph Miller	George Stephenson
John Fletcher	William Pattinson
Thomas Cook	Robert Robson
William Morpeth	John Philips
William Gibbon	Luke Barkas
Charles Dunn	George Stokoe
Joseph Barnard	John Patton
Samuel Kent	John Simpson
John Bousfield	John Steel
John Sissions	Robert Dunn
George Kikley	Jonas Pickering
John Scott	Robert Brown
John Young	Thomas Young
Robert Brown	

Gateshead Fell, Oct. 23, 1841.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—In obedience to the request of a number of my brother Burgesses, I feel bound to offer

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myself as a Candidate for the Representation of your Ward in the Council of the Borough of Gateshead.

Should I have the honour of being Elected to the Office to which I aspire, I do assure you that I shall use my utmost endeavours to discharge the duties thereof faithfully.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
DANIEL ROBSON.

Shipcote, Gateshead, Oct. 26, 1841.

TO THOMAS SOWERBY, ESQ.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, do hereby respectfully request you to allow yourself to be put in nomination for the office of Councillor for the South Ward of the Borough of Gateshead, which becomes vacant on the first of November.

John Wright	Thomas Ferguson
Thomas Robson	John Pattison
Lionel Robson	Joshua Parkinson
Thomas Liddell	Robert Hetherington
James Smith	John Marshall
Richard Errington	M. R. Legge
Robert Clement	William Dineley
David Fiddes	James Grey Soppet
John Edward	Benjamin Brunton
Thomas Hewitt	Ephraim Patterson
Algernon Akenhead	John Cook
Robert Coulson	George Brown
David Colling	Matthew Plummer
John Scaife	Samuel Barras
George Barras	J. N. Pattinson
Joseph Miller	George Stephenson
John Fletcher	William Pattinson
Thomas Cook	Robert Robson
William Morpeth	John Phillips
Luke Barkas	William Gibbon
John Young	Thomas Young
Archibald Freeman	Charles Dunn
George Stokoe	Joseph Barnard
John Patton	Samuel Kent
John Simpson	John Steel
Robert Dunn	Jonas Pickering
John Scott	Robet Brown
John Young	Thomas Young
Robert Brown	

Gateshead Low Fell, Oct. 23, 1841.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with the above respectable requisition, I feel bound to offer myself as a Candidate for the honourable situation of representing you in the Town Council; and should I be so fortunate as to be elected, nothing shall be wanting on my part to assist in promoting the interests of the Borough and the comfort of its inhabitants.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,
THOMAS SOWERBY.

Bellevue, Gateshead Low Fell, Oct. 25, 1841.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE EAST WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—My term of office, as your Representative in the Council, will expire on the 1st of November.

I am sorry to have to say that the Council, for some time past, has been so composed, that I can see no immediate prospect of obtaining you justice with regard to the Borough Property. So many Boroughholders have been made Councillors, that they are able to defeat any motion that may be made for prosecuting your claims, and thereby settling a question, which, strange to say, all of them have declared, over and over again, *ought to be settled.*

This, however, is a state of things for which the Electors, and the Electors only, are to blame. They have the remedy in their own hands; and if they use it not, they have no right to complain.

As a Boroughholder, as well as a Councillor, I have endeavoured, at all times, to prevent the commission of acts of injustice against the public. I have opposed the sale of any portion of the public property, and I am happy to tell you, that on this point the opinion of almost every lawyer who has been appealed to, is against the Boroughholders. They cannot give a legal title. Even parties who have been silly enough to bid at sales, and to pay deposits on purchases, have been glad to run from their bargains, and they have been assured also that they can legally do so.

The persons building on the Windmill Hills are also acting most illegally, and entirely at their peril. They have no right to dig a single foundation, or to lay a single stone, as they will find to their cost in the end.

It is only just, however, to the general body of Boroughholders, to exonerate them from the charge of attempting to do acts which the law does not sanction. It is only a few, and a very few, who are so acting, and these actors are men who know better, and who ought to be ashamed of themselves. They are neither poor nor ignorant enough to be excused. They think that the people of Gateshead may be tired out, and that time will give them what the law does not.

So long as I shall be a Councillor of Gateshead—or an Elector—or a Boroughholder—you may depend upon it I shall never lose an opportunity of opposing and exposing the conduct of the selfish persons to whom I have referred. If my pledge to do so entitles me to your suffrages, I shall be glad to receive them: if not, our connection can cease as honourably as it began.

I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,
Ellison-street, October 18, 1841. JAMES HYMERS.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE EAST WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg again to offer myself as a Candidate for your Ward, hoping that my past conduct, as a Councillor oo the Borough, will ensure me that support which I received from you at my last election.

Should you be pleased to re-elect me one of the Town Council, I shall endeavour to discharge the duties of that office for the general benefit of the Borough.

I shall forward to each of you a Voting Paper, by which you will perceive the time and place of polling; and, if honoured with your support, I shall feel obliged by your attendance.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JOHN LISTER.

Melbourne-street, Gateshead, October 27, 1841.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE WEST WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I again most respectfully beg to offer you my services as a member of the Town Council at the approaching election on the 1st of November.

During the six years I have had the honour of being one of your Representatives, my best attention has been devoted to the duties of the office; and should you now be pleased to elect me for the third time, I shall, to the utmost of my ability, endeavour to merit your confidence, by diligently attending to the interests of the inhabitants, and promoting the improvements and prosperity of the borough.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient humble Servant,
THOMAS CUMMINS.

8, Sedgwick-place, Oct. 28, 1841.

GATESHEAD UNION.

I, ROBERT LOWTHIN, Superintendent Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, for the District of the Gateshead Union, in the county of Durham, *do hereby give Notice*, that MR. JOHN HENDERSON, JUN., of Winlaton, in the said county, has been duly appointed under the provision of an act made and passed in the 6th and 7th years of his late Majesty King William IV, cap. 86, entituled, "An Act for registering Births, Deaths, and Marriages, in England," Registrar of Births and Deaths, (in the place of Mr. Joseph Angus, deceased,) for the Winlaton District, comprising the several Parishes and Townships of Winlaton, Ryton, Ryton Woodside, Chopwell, Crawcrook, and Stella.

ROBERT LOWTHIN, Superintendent Registrar.

Register Office, High-street, Gateshead.

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ROMAN ANTIQUITIES

IN NORTHUMBERLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—I was yesterday favoured by a copy of the *Gateshead Observer* of Saturday last, with a request that I would translate and give an account of some antiquities printed in that newspaper, and lately discovered by Mr. Richard Shanks of Broadgates, near Risingham, the modern name of Habitancum, the Roman station in which these antiquities were discovered. To this request I am glad to forward you an immediate answer, because it gives me an opportunity of thanking Mr. Shanks for the kindness he has shown me about his researches, and for the zeal and energy he has employed for the last three years in investigating the extensive ruins of Risingham. About a year since I made in his garden drawings and minutes about all the altars, coins, and curiosities he had then discovered in his station, of which in February last I gave an account in the *Gentleman's Magazine* and the *Newcastle Courant*. In April and June following, he favoured me with drawings and observations on the four Roman grave-stones then lately discovered by him in Risingham, and noticed in the *Gateshead Observer* of Saturday last: and of these, in his letters to me, he says they were all found within the great wall that surrounds the station, on a level to each other, their ends inwards, and the inscriptions on the under side. "Not a letter is defaced by the hand of time." Number I. was found at the north-east corner of the wall; numbers II. and III. about 20 feet further to the south; and all of them about six inches thick, with the back side quite rough.

The inscriptions are in the following letters, all in capitals, and some in words much abbreviated, but below translated in Latin and English at length. The figures, 1, 2, &c., show the beginning and number of each line.

I.—1D.M 2S TRIVS 3HONORATVS 4VIXIT. AN 4NIS . V . ME5SIBVS . VIII.

Diis manibus. Satrius Honoratus vixit, annis quinque, mensibus octo.—To the Gods of the Shades below. Satrius Honoratus lived five years, eight months.—This tombstone is 38 inches by 22, and has the six lines of the inscription cut in capital letters on a writing tablet.

II.—1D M.S. 2AVR . OVART3LA . VIX . AN4NIS . XIII . MI . V . 5D . XXII . AVR . 6OVARTINVS 2POSVIT . FILIAE . SVAE .

Diis manibus sacrum. Aurelia Ovartla vixit annis tredecim, mensibus quinque, diebus viginti duo.—Aurelius Ovartinus posuit filiæ suæ.—Sacred to the Gods of the Shades below. Aurelia Ovartla lived thirteen years, five months, twenty-two days. Aurelius Ovartinus set it to his daughter.—The stone is nearly three feet high, but its top and bottom are broken off.

III.—1D M S 2AVR . LVPV3LE MATRI 4PIISSIME 5DIONYSIVS 6FORTVNA 7TVS FILIVS 8ST 9TL.

Diis manibus sacrum. Aureliæ Lupulæ matri piissimæ Dionysius Fortunatus filius. Sit tibi terra levis.—Sacred to the Gods of Spirits. To Aurelia Lupula, mother the most holy, Dionysius Fortunatus, the son. Light be the ground to thee.—Height, 30 inches; breadth, 21. Each end broken.

IV.—1IVL . VICTOR 2SIC VIX AN 3IV.

Julius Victor sicut vixit annos quatuor.—Julius Victor lived nearly four years.—This is on a stone two feet high, but broken at both ends.

Among the Romans, as at present, funereal monuments were very commonly raised out of the graves of one age, to be used as common stones for the walls and buildings of others.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HODGSON.

Hartburn Vicarage, Morpeth, 9th Oct., 1841.

THE GATESHEAD UNION.

AT the fortnightly meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Gateshead Poor Law Union, on Tuesday, (Joseph Cowen, Esq. in the chair,) a Report of the Finance Committee, recommending that £2,000 (in addition to the £4,000 already expended) should be borrowed for the purpose of liquidating the claims connected with the building of the new workhouse, was received and confirmed; and the architect was instructed to explain how it happened that the expense of the building had so much exceeded the original estimate.——A discussion also took place respecting the sale of the Gateshead and Heworth workhouses, and Sir John Walsham (who was present) explained that these properties could only be sold by consent of the parishioners in meeting assembled. Mr. Brockett questioned the right of the parishioners to dispose of the Gateshead house. A "case," he said, had been laid before the late Attorney-General (Sir John Campbell), and his "opinion" obtained. The "case" was long, and he would not detain the Board by reading it: it might be read at a public meeting. The "opinion" was as follows:—

I am of opinion that it was a clear breach of trust to convey the almshouse to be used as a workhouse in ease of the ratepayers; and that the poor of the parish, not receiving parochial relief, ought to have had the benefit of the charity. The objects ought to have been selected by the trustees appointed by the founder, and by the succeeding trustees.

I am of opinion, that if application had been made to the Court of Chancery in due time, the transaction of 1750 would have been considered illegal, and the conveyance would have been set aside. I think the property would still be considered as belonging to the charity.

The occupation since 1750 appears to me to have been clearly contrary to the will of the founder. The use of the house as a workhouse could not have been at all in his contemplation.

There is considerable difficulty in saying where the legal estate now is, as I conceive that 59 George III., cap. 12, applies only to lands, &c., to be applied in ease of the poor's rates, and which are the property of the parish.

But there is abundant evidence of the identity of the premises, and I do not think that anything has occurred to prevent the trusts of the will of the founder now being carried into effect.

The ratepayers not being a corporation, I think there is no way in which the £200 can be specifically recovered from them, nor can they be made liable for arrears of rent or interest.

I am of opinion that the premises in question cannot be considered as the parish-property, and that the Guardians of the Union have no right to dispose of them. I think it will be necessary to go to the Court of Chancery, for the appointment of fresh trustees, and the regulation of the charity.

I must refer the churchwardens to an equity draughtsman as to the form of the proceedings to be adopted for the purpose of carrying into effect their laudable object. The matter is now so complicated, that I am afraid it cannot be arranged without going into the Court of Chancery.

Temple, March 9, 1840. J. CAMPBELL.

Mr. Armstrong said the parishioners of Heworth had already decided against selling their workhouse.—It was finally resolved, on the motion of Mr. Joseph Robson, that steps should be taken for ascertaining, in public meeting, the sentiments of the parishioners of both parishes on the subject.——Mr. Kenmir moved that the Relieving Officer for Gateshead, Mr. John Pattison, be requested to reside in the populous part of his district. He thought the law required that he should do so; and it was quite evident that he could not perform his duties efficiently, if he resided at a great distance from the scene of his labours. He thought he should not live at a greater distance than a quarter of a mile from the "blue stone" of the bridge. Mr. Brockett seconded the motion, and mentioned that he had previously made a similar motion in the Board, but was not supported. He thought that the principle asserted by Mr. Kenmir was unanswerable. The duties of the office, as well as justice to the poor and to the Poor Law, required that a Relieving Officer should be an accessible officer; and that could not be the case under the present arrangements. Sir John Walsham thought the motion was a proper one—the whole time of the officer should be devoted to his duty, and it was certainly most desirable that he should reside in a convenient situation. Mr. Gray thought it should be shown that Mr. Pattison's attendance for three hours a day was not sufficient, or that he had neglected his duty, before he should be called upon to reside in the town; and he moved, therefore, as an amendment, that things remain as they are. Mr. Sanderson seconded the amendment. On a division, the original motion was carried by 13 to 3, and the Clerk was instructed to apprize Mr. Pattison of it. On the motion of Mr. James Hymers, the names of the parties voting were taken down. They were as follows:—For the amendment—Messrs. Gray, Mordue, and Sanderson. For Mr.

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Kenmir's motion—Messrs. Kenmir, Brockett, Cowen, Armstrong, Robson, Hall, Burnip, Gallon, J. Hymers, Laycock, Freeman, Joyce, and Potts. Messrs. Tone and Murray were neuter. ——A letter was read from the Rector of Gateshead, on the subject of a Chaplain for the workhouse. It stated that it was impossible for the present church-clergy to give sufficient attention to the inmates, but expressed a willingness, at the same time—in case the Union would give him (the Rector) the nomination of a Chaplain—to lighten the burden on the Union, by contributing to his support. It concluded by saying that he had made the offer in good will; but if the Guardians refused to consider it, he should not interfere further. No motion having been made on the subject, the meeting dissolved.—[The following is a religious classification of the present inmates of the workhouse:—Belonging to the Established Church, 36; Dissenters, 48; Catholics, 4; incapable of religious instruction, 10; children, 49; total, 147.]

CHANGES OF COUNTY DIVISIONS.

(COPY ORDER.)

DURHAM, (TO WIT.) } AT the GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS of the PEACE of our Lady the Queen, holden at Durham, in and for the county of Durham, on Monday, the eighteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord 1841,—Before John William Williamson, John Douse Garthwaite, Thomas Robinson Grey, Esquires, and others their fellows, Justices of our said Lady the Queen, assigned to keep the peace of our said Lady the Queen in the said county, and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors done and committed in the said county.

Whereas, by a statement in writing, under the hands of Andrew White, Joseph Simpson, Richard White, Walker Featherstonhaugh, Ralph Carr, Richard Spoor, Richard Pemberton, and Edward Backhouse, Esquires, eight of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace of and for the said county, bearing date the fifteenth day of June last, and laid before the Justices of the Peace assembled at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said county, on Monday, the 28th day of the same month of June, the said eight Justices did, under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the ninth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled "An Act for the better regulation of Divisions in the several Counties of England and Wales," state their opinion that the following parishes, townships, and places would form together a convenient and a proper division, within and for which Special Sessions should thenceforward be held, viz.:—

Parishes, Townships, and Places proposed by the said statement to form a new Division.	*In what existing Division the same were situate or deemed to be.*
Bishopwearmouth	North Division of Easington Ward.
Bishopwearmouth Panns	
Burdon.....	
Dawdon	
Ford	
Fulwell	
Hylton	
Monkwearmouth	
Monkwearmouth Shore.....	
Ryhope.....	
Silksworth	
Seaham.....	
Southwick	
Sunderland	
Tunstall	

And the same Justices did thereby declare and set forth that the following division (that is to say), the north division of Easington Ward, in the said county, would be altered by such proposed new division; and further, that the following Justices of the Peace for the said county, were then usually resident or acting as such within the boundaries of the said proposed new division (that is to say), Sir Hedworth Williamson, Baronet; the Reverend George Stephenson, clerk; John Davison, Addison Fenwick, Robert Reay, Ralph Carr, Richard Spoor, Richard White, Andrew White, Thomas Wilkinson, Joseph Simpson, Edward Backhouse, Walker Featherstonhaugh, and Richard Pemberton, Esquires; which said statement has been duly published as required by the said Act.

Now upon full consideration of the said statement, and upon due proof adduced before this court, that for two years last past there have been, and that at this time there are, at the least, five Justices of the Peace residing in or usually acting within the boundary line proposed to be the limits of the said proposed new division,—It is ordered that the said statement, under the hands of the said Andrew White, Joseph Simpson, Richard White, Walker Featherstonhaugh, Ralph Carr, Richard Spoor, Richard Pemberton, and Edward Backhouse, shall be, and the same is hereby adopted; and that the several parishes, townships, and places enumerated in the same statement, shall be comprised within, and shall constitute, a new division, to be called the "Sunderland Division," within which Special Sessions shall be holden,—And it is further ordered, that this order shall take effect upon, and from the third day of January next.

By the Court,
WHARTON.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Application is intended to be made to Parliament in the next session, for a Bill for altering, amending, and enlarging the powers and provisions of an Act passed in the fifth and sixth years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act for enabling John Brandling and Robert William Brandling, Esquires, to purchase and take leases of lands and hereditaments for the formation of a Railway from Gateshead to South Shields and Monkwearmouth, all in the county palatine of Durham, with Branches therefrom;" and of another Act passed in the sixth and seventh year of the reign of His said late Majesty, intituled "An Act for incorporating certain persons for carrying into effect the purposes of an Act passed in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for enabling John Brandling and Robert William Brandling, Esquires, to purchase and take leases of lands and hereditaments for the formation of a Railway from Gateshead to South Shields and Monkwearmouth, all in the county palatine of Durham, with Branches therefrom,' and for other purposes;" and of another Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to enable the Brandling Junction Railway Company to raise an additional sum of money;" and for empowering the said Company to raise a further sum for the general purposes of the said undertaking. Dated this eighteenth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty one.

The County Registration has closed.—The number of electors enrolled is 6,068 in North Durham, and 6,067 in South Durham; being an increase in the former case of 244, and in the latter of 1,247; making, altogether, an increase of 1,494 electors in the present over the preceding Register.

Mr. Thomas Sowerby and Mr. Daniel Robson have complied with numerously signed requisitions, and become candidates for the representation of the South Ward of Gateshead. We shall therefore have a contest, Mr. C. J. Pearson being also a candidate.

The Rev. E. Tasker, the eloquent and worthy pastor of the Independent church in this borough, has for some time been engaged in the delivery of an instructive course of Thursday evening lectures, in the Melbourne-street chapel, to attentive audiences.

The opening-concert in the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms was held last night, in the lecture-room of that institution, and was most numerously and respectably attended. The singing of Mrs. Leybourne, Mr. Small, and Mr. Ferry, was much applauded. The members of the choir also rendered efficient service, and were well received. Mr. Ions, of Newcastle, presided at the piano-forte with his usual ability: his well-known taste and execution render any eulogium superfluous. The general arrangements and fitting up of the room gave every satisfaction.—We trust the funds of the church-choir, in aid of which the concert was given, will gain considerable pecuniary assistance.

The farewell *soiree* to the Rev. William Turner has been reluctantly abandoned by the Hanover-square congregation, Newcastle, at the desire of his relatives, "the effects of his late unfortunate accident, though to a considerable extent removed, being still such as to make them dread the consequences of the excitement with which a meeting of the kind, under such circumstances, must be attended."

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The footpath across the Windmill-Hills, Gateshead, has been rendered nearly impassable to foot-passengers, being cut up by the horses and wheeled-carriages lately permitted by the Boroughholders to make use of this road. Can any of the inhabitants, better informed upon this subject than ourselves, instruct us as to the legality of the conduct of the Boroughholders? Have the public a right of road across the hills, or have they made use of the footpath merely by sufferance? We meddle not with the title of the Boroughholders to *the property itself:* it is of their title to *the pathway over the property* that we now speak. And it does seem to us that they are grossly and contemptuously infringing upon the privileges and enjoyments of their fellow-townsmen. We counsel the people to appeal to their Chief Magistrate and the Council for an inquiry into the proceedings of the Boroughholders. Surely the worthy Mayor and his colleagues will not stand tamely aloof, whilst their constituents are disgracefully driven from one of the pleasantest paths in the borough. But if the Representatives of the Burgesses should be unmindful of their duty, may we not hope that some "village Hampden" will arise to redress the wrongs of his brethren? We have kept silence upon this subject till we can forbear no longer. We give the wrong-doers fair warning that we shall try wheher the Press be not powerful enough to overmatch them in their aggressions.

BRIDGE ACROSS THE TYNE AT A HIGH LEVEL.

IN pursuance of a Resolution of the Committee of the 8th October, a MEETING of the GENERAL COMMITTEE, and others interested in the undertaking, will be held at Messrs. GREEN'S, in the Arcade, on THURSDAY, the 28th inst., at One o'clock.

TESTIMONIAL to the Meritorious Conduct of Capt. Smith, of the *Sisters*.

The Directors of the Gateshead and Tyne Shipping Company feel it due to Captain Smith, of the Brig *Sisters*, of Portsmouth, to take this public opportunity of expressing their thanks to him for the prompt assistance which he rendered to the crew of the *Pollock*, when that vessel was in a sinking state off the Norfolk Coast on the 21st of September last—an example which cannot be too conspicuously held up for the imitation of British Sailors.

Gateshead on-Tyne, Oct. 27, 1841.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

THE WATCH COMMITTEE will meet in the Town Hall on Tuesday next, the 26th inst., at Six o'clock in the Evening, to appoint Two Police Constables. Testimonials of character to be left with the Superintendent, at the Police Station, before four o'clock on that day.

By order,
WILLIAM KELL, Town Clerk.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS OF MONDAY, Nov. 1.

GATESHEAD.—*East Ward.*—Mr. James Hymers, 92; *Mr. Charles Dunn, 67; Mr. John Lister, 63. *West.*—Mr. William Kenmir, 54; Mr. Thomas Cummins, 48; *Mr. Joseph Barnard, 2; *Mr. Nicholas Andrews, 1. *South.*—*Mr. Thomas Sowerby, 106; *Mr. Daniel Robson, 103; Mr. C. J. Pearson, 64. Of the five new candidates, marked thus (*), three have been elected.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—*Saint Nicholas' Ward.*—Mr. George Straker (Liberal), 222; *Mr. W. L. Harle (Liberal), 174; Mr. Henry A. Mitchell (Liberal), 67; *Mr. Thomas Gray (Liberal), 46. *St. John.*—Mr. Matthew Plues (Liberal), 237; Mr. Emerson Charnley (Liberal), 197; *Mr. William Brown (Tory), 150. *West All Saints.*—Mr. James Sillick (Liberal), 204; Mr. John Thomas Carr (Liberal), 174; *Mr. Robert Todd (Tory), 142. *East All Saints.*—Mr Joseph Crawhall (Tory), 284; Mr. S. Lowrey (Liberal), 240; *Mr. John Hunter (Liberal), 151. *North St. Andrew.*—Mr. R. P. Philipson (Liberal), 227; Mr. T. W. Keenlyside (Liberal), 205; *Mr. John Bulman (Tory), 172. *South St. Andrew.*—Mr. M. L. Jobling (Liberal), 146; *Mr. F. Sanderson (Liberal), 140; Mr. John Mountain (Tory), 120. In each of the preceding wards, the first two candidates were elected. In Westgate ward, Mr. James Finlay (Liberal), and in Jesmond ward, Mr. Robert Plummer (Tory), were re-elected without opposition. Those candidates marked thus (*) were not in the Council in the last year.

SUNDERLAND.—*Bishopwearmouth Ward*—Mr. Joseph Lee (Tory), 110; Dr. Miller (Tory), 101; *Mr. William Mordey (Reformer), 60; *Mr. G. Green (Reformer), 55. *Bridge Ward*—*Mr. William Dobinson (Reformer), 84; *Mr. Joseph Young (Tory), 84; *Mr. R. Gregory (Reformer), 83; Mr. Joseph Shevill (Tory), 61. *West Ward*—Mr. Emerson Musshamp (Reformer), 55; *Sir Hedworth Williamson (Reformer), 47; *Mr. James Hartley (Tory), 16; *Mr. Frederick Snowdon (Tory), 14. *St. Michael's Ward*—Mr. John Hopper (Reformer), 73; *Mr. James Hills (Reformer), 71; *Mr. R. S. Davison (Tory), 49; *Mr. Nathan Horn (Tory), 43. *Sunderland Ward*—*Mr. C Bramwell (Tory), 96; *Mr. John Ritson (Tory), 88; Mr. Edward Bowmaker (Reformer), 83; Mr John Barry (Reformer), 70. *East Ward*—Mr. William Nicholson (Tory), 125; Mr. Charles Dobbing (Reformer), 104; *Mr. Henry Penman (Tory), 93; *Mr. Robert Wight (Reformer), 72. *Monkwearmouth Ward*—Mr. George Bolam (Reformer), 157; *Mr. Thompson Oliver (Reformer), 118; Mr. John Austin (Tory), 108; *Mr. Thomas Walker (Tory), 50. Six Tories and eight Reformers elected. Those marked thus (*) were not previously members of the Council.

DURHAM.—No political change here. There was a contest in the City Ward, in which Mr. J. H. Veitch (Reformer) was re-elected, and Mr. Stone (Tory) was ousted—ousted, too, by a brother Tory, (Mr. Telfair).

STOCKTON-UPON-TEES.—East Ward: Messrs. Robert Cass, John Eeles, and James Sudron. West Ward: Messrs. Richard Nicholson, Edward Hodgson, and Thomas Plues.—These we believe are all Tories: and the Stockton Council is now Tory altogether. The Liberals declined to take any part in the election of Monday last, and the East Ward Councillors were chosen by the single vote of Dr. Trotter—those of the West Ward by the vote of Mr. Thos. Clennett. Stockton, we have before stated, is one of the boroughs in which Municipal Reform stopped short; consequently the inhabitants have merely the rudiment of a Corporation. The ancient limits of the borough, which are of very narrow extent, are still in force, to the exclusion of the greater part of the town. The population of Stockton is about 10,000, yet the number of burgesses does not exceed a few dozens; and the burgess-roll being so brief, it will readily be conceived that the number of persons eligible to election must be brief indeed.

MORPETH.—Messrs. A. Charlton, Thomas Jobling, and John Creighton, re-elected. Mr. George Hood elected by the Liberals in the room of Mr. Bates.

RICHMOND.—Mr. John Ascough was re-elected. Messrs. Henry J. Turner and Thomas Johnstone Bowman, and Capt. Carter, were elected in the room of Messrs. John Dalton, Richard Atkinson, and Christopher Westgarth.

In Leicester, twelve Reformers and two Tories were elected; there was a contest in every ward. In Leeds, eleven Reformers and five Tories were elected, thus restoring to the Reformers a majority in the Council. At Liverpool, the Tories were much more successful than the Liberals. At Derby, not a single Tory was returned. At Worcester, the Tories only returned two of the twelve Councillors that were elected. Twelve Reformers and two Tories were elected in Nottingham. In Birmingham none but Reformers were elected: there is not a Tory in the Council. At Bath, 9 Liberals and 5 Tories were elected, being a gain of 3 seats to the former party. The Liberals of Edinburgh carried every ward.

NEWCASTLE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.

ON Wednesday, a special meeting of the shareholders was held in the office of the Company, near the Forth, Newcastle, to take into consideration the plan for extending the Great North of England Railway to the Durham Junction, (MATTHEW PLUMMER, Esq., in the chair).

The CHAIRMAN stated that the amount of guarantee required from the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company was £500 per year for ten years from the opening of the new railway. The formation of that railway would give a continuous locomotive line from London to Carlisle, *via* Newcastle. Persons proceeding from the west of Scotland to the metropolis of London might thus avoid the stage-coach ride of 66 miles by way of Shap Fell. The benefits to the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway would be great, and the burden (if any) very small.

Further statements were made, similar to those which appear in our report of the Darlington meeting of the previous day; and on the motion of Mr. JOSEPH HAWKS, seconded by Mr. E. ROBSON, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this Company do unite with the North Midland, the York and North Midland, the Leeds and Manchester, the Brandling Junction and the Durham Junction Railway Companies, and any other Railway Companies that may join in the measure, in taking a lease of the proposed new railway from Darlington to the Durham Junction Railway, at such annual rent as may be agreed on for the term of ten years from the opening of such railway, this Company paying (or guaranteeing the payment of) the sum of £500 as their proportion of such rent, and being entitled in like proportion to the benefit of such lease; and that the Directors be authorised to carry this resolution into effect in such manner as they shall see fit, and to affix the seal of this Company to an instrument assenting to an Act of Parliament, authorising or requiring this Company to join in such lease, on the terms above mentioned, or on any other terms that may be agreed to by the Directors."

The CHAIRMAN called attention to another object for which the meeting had been called, viz., the raising of £225,000, by the creation of 2,250 new shares of £100 each, to remove some of the floating debt, complete the doubling of the line, &c.

A resolution was passed accordingly for the raising of the

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sum named. £5 per cent. to be paid on the sums advanced for the shares in lieu of half yearly profits to the holders, prior to any general dividend, until the last call on the new shares are made and paid; after which, the holders to take their share of profit in common with the rest of the proprietors. A call of £50 per share (on the 2,250) to be made and paid on the day of subscribing. The Directors to be authorized (if they see fit) to subscribe individually for the whole or any part of the new shares, for the benefit and at the risk of the Company, holding them redeemable at par, on payment of the principal monies advanced, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the meeting then separated.—Nov. 6.

The labours of the first session of the new Parliament now lie before us, in the form of an octavo pamphlet, comprising eleven statutes, viz.:—1 and 2, concerning the Royal Kitchen Gardens, and the Grounds at Frogmore; 3, the Pay of the Navy; 4, the Care of Insane Persons; 5, the Administration of Justice; 6, the Consecration of Foreign Bishops; 7, the Continuation of Expiring Laws; 8, the Funding of Exchequer Bills; 9, the Census; 10, the Continuance of the Poor Law Commission; 11, the Raising of £10,626,350 by Exchequer Bills! Here we have the whole Legislation of the Peel Parliament—the total Prescription of the Physician who was "called in" to the aid of John Bull. Not one ingredient is there in the way of diet for the patient. The Commons' House put him on "Short Commons," and conclude their treatment with a copious "bleeding." But John must have patience. He must give the Doctor "time," and then——What? Heaven knows! Peel does not.

Messrs. J. Hymers and W. H. Brockett, two boroughholders of Gateshead, have appropriated £12 (the share of the borough-property rents which had been allotted to their burgage-houses by the Boroughholders and Freemen) to a charitable purpose. They have placed it in the hands of Mr. Usher, for distribution amongst the poor of Gateshead.

The Charter of Hartlepool, as we had occasion to state a few weeks ago, has been restored by the Crown—and Mr. Vollum, jun., appointed Mayor. The Corporation of this town ranks amongst the most ancient of the kingdom. A Charter of King John is on record. Bishop Poor, in 1230, granted another; and a list of Mayors, commencing in 1315, has been published by Sir Cuthbert Sharp—whose History of Hartlepool is one of the best works in connection with the topography of the North. Queen Elizabeth granted what may be called the Great Charter in 1593; and under it the Corporation acted until its forfeiture a few years ago. Amongst the Mayors of this ancient borough are to be found the names of Bellasis, Claxton, Fulthorp, Tempest, Heath, Clavering, Smith, Eden, Hedworth, Lambton, Hilton, Bowes, Carr, Liddell, Vane, (Cleveland), Davison, Milbank, Morley, Spearman, Baker, Ibbetson, Wilkinson, Nesham, Stapylton, Seddon, Ellison, Sharp, and Vane (Londonderry.) The present Cuthbert Ellison, Esq. of Hebburn, was Mayor in 1809, Sir Cuthbert Sharp in 1816 and 1824, the Marquis of Londonderry in 1828, and the Duke of Cleveland in 1818 and 1831.

The Opening of the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms is to be celebrated on Monday first, by a public dinner; and the promoters of the entertainment have very properly issued the tickets at a low price, in order to afford an opportunity to the largest possible number of friends to evince the interest they feel in this truly excellent institution.

The fortnightly meeting of the Gateshead Board of Guardians was held on Tuesday last, (Joseph Cowen, Esq., in the chair,) when a report from the Finance Committee was presented, to the following effect:—

The Finance Committee report that they find that the moiety of the call for the service of the present quarter, ordered to be paid to the Treasurer on or before the 23d day of October, has not yet been fully paid by any of the parishes, with the exception of Ryton Woodside:—they have also taken into consideration the proposed rate by the parish officers of Gateshead upon the new Union workhouse, and are of opinion that the proportionate value upon which the house ought to be rated does not exceed £150.

After the report was read, Mr. James Hymers said he did not understand the latter part of it, as he thought rating a workhouse was only taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another. Mr. Rowntree explained that the overseers of Gateshead had the power to rate, and had rated it, and the Finance Committee had sanctioned the power, and it only now wanted the confirmation of the Board. Mr. Hymers thought it was not right to rate the workhouse at all, and he inquired if in any other Union it had been done so, and if the Newcastle workhouse was rated. Mr. Rowntree said that workhouses had been rated in other unions, but the Newcastle one was not to be rated. Mr. Kenmir thought the Newcastle and Gateshead Unions were different—the former consisting of the town only, and the latter comprising many country parishes. He thought the rateable value mentioned was too low. Mr. Rowntree read a list of rentals of large houses in the parish, by which the value assigned in the report to the workhouse had been estimated, and he thought it was a fair one. Mr. Kenmir thought the list read was so irregular, that a new valuation should be made of the parish, and therefore he could not support the adoption of the report. He said if he had been on the committee, he would not have agreed to the report. Mr. Hymers said it was quite competent to Mr. Kenmir to move an amendment, or the consideration of the report might be postponed. No amendment, however, was proposed, and the report passed.—Nov. 6.

The Rev. J. Davies, Rector of Gateshead, we recently stated, had addressed a letter to the Board of Guardians. We had not room for its insertion in our number of the 23d inst., but we now give it a place in our columns, in justice to the reverend gentleman:—

Gentlemen,—As I cannot attend the meeting of the Board this day without considerable inconvenience, I have thought that a written communication might as effectually secure the object I had in view as if I was present, especially as I do not wish to enter into any personal discussion on the subject. At the last meeting I briefly stated the necessity, as it appeared to me, of making some regular provision for the religious instruction of the inmates of the union-workhouse. I observed that this seemed to be the more reasonable and imperative, because the legislative enactment under which the house has been built, and the whole system is conducted, has made express provision for that exigency, by empowering the Commissioners to require the appointment of a chaplain, licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese, and the printed rules of the union distinctly specify his duties. I am perfectly aware of the difficulties connected with this subject; and if it was at all compatible with other engagements, that the existing clergy of the parish should adequately discharge the duties of a chaplain gratuitously, I should certainly have been anxious to abstain from pressing the subject on your attention. You must, however, be aware of the amount and accumulation of duty now unavoidably devolving on the clergy of a parish crowded with a population amounting to more than 15,600. With a view of meeting, in some degree, the demands of such an increasing population, during my own short incumbency and that of my excellent predecessor, the public services have been more than doubled. Still I feel that the labours of the clergy are very far from adequate to the demands of such a multitude; and when the Legislature of the country has just planted among us an establishment for the accommodation, in a great degree, of the pauper population of other parishes, that the clergy of this parish, with every disposition to do what they can, should be able to maintain divine service, and to administer religious instruction and consolation to the inmates of the institution to the necessary extent, is completely out of the question. That the Legislature never contemplated imposing upon them such an extra-parochial burden, is sufficiently evident from the fact of an express provision being made for the appointment of a licensed and salaried chaplain, and from the almost universal practice of other unions. Hitherto, a short week-day service only has been held in the chapel of the workhouse by the clergy in rotation, and this is all that they can possibly undertake.

Under all these circumstances, while I feel that I am perfectly exempt from the responsibility connected with a national establishment thus situated, and for which the law has otherwise distinctly provided, I am most willing, at the same time, to make some sacrifice, with a view of securing such provision with as little additional burden on the pecuniary resources of the union as possible. If the Board should consent to the appointment of a chaplain (allowing me to nominate him to the Bishop), I should be very happy to use my best exertions to procure a suitable and efficient person, and contribute towards his salary, in consideration of other services he might be required to render in the parish. I offer this suggestion in a spirit of accommodation and good-will, obviously without any view to personal advantage, but the reverse; and if the members of the Board are disposed to regard it in that light, and to meet the proposal with a similar feeling, I trust that it may lead to such an arrangement as may, under the Divine blessing, contribute to the best interests of this parish generally, and especially to that important establishment over which the Board of Guardians have been appointed to preside. If, however, it should meet with a different reception, I beg respectfully to say, that, having done what I have conceived it to be my duty to do, it is not my intention to pursue the subject further; and the clergy of this parish will have only to act as they have hitherto endeavoured to do. I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, &c. &c. &c.,

Rectory, Oct. 19, 1841. John Davies.

Having now performed an act of justice to the Rector, we must

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next be just to the Guardians, and state that prayers and a portion of Holy Scripture are read to the inmates morning and evening; that divine service is conducted every Wednesday afternoon, by a clergyman of the parish; that on Sundays the inmates are at liberty to attend their respective places of worship twice a day; and that the children attend the National School during the week, and the Church Sunday-school on Sundays.

The following is an account of the population, and of the expense in taking the census, in the Gateshead Union:—

Parishes.	Population.	Fees to Superintendent Registrar.			Fees to Registrar.			Fees to Enumerators.			Total Expense.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Gateshead,.....	19,505	4	11	4	13	17	6	29	6	0	47	14	10
Heworth, ...	7,126	1	13	5	6	17	6	11	8	0	19	18	11
Whickham, ...	4,319	1	0	3	6	4	0	9	6	6	16	10	9
Winlaton, ...	5,006	1	3	5	5	7	2	8	5	0	14	15	7
Stella,.....	563	0	2	8	0	12	0	1	2	0	1	16	8
Ryton, ...	677	0	3	2	0	14	6	1	5	0	2	2	8
Ryton Woodside,	1,059	0	4	11	1	2	9	2	9	0	3	16	8
Chopwell, ...	320	0	1	6	0	6	10	1	16	0	2	4	4
Crawcrook, ...	290	0	1	4	0	6	3	0	17	0	1	4	7
Totals,.....	38,865	9	2	0	35	8	6	65	14	6	110	5	0

NOTICE TO THE POOR.—The Boroughholders and Freemen of Gateshead having for the last few years divided the Rents of the Borough Property amongst themselves, instead of applying them to public and charitable purposes, as was formerly the case, the sum of Twelve Pounds has been assigned to us, in respect of the Burgage Houses which we possess.

As we are determined that this portion at least of the Rents shall not be any longer withheld from the Public, we hereby give notice, that we have ordered it to be paid into the hands of Mr. Usher, the Superintendent of Police, for distribution, on TUESDAY, the 9th inst., (the day when the Mayor is chosen,) at Two o'clock in the Afternoon, in Oakwellgate, amongst the most destitute and deserving of the Poor of the Borough of Gateshead.

JAMES HYMERS,
Gateshead, Nov. 4, 1841. W. H. BROCKETT.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

A LIST of the NAMES of the PERSONS elected on the first day of November, 1841, to be COUNCILLORS for the respective Wards of the Borough of Gateshead, in the County of Durham, to supply the places of those Councillors who went out of Office on that day; published pursuant to the directions of the Act of 5th and 6th Wm. IV., Cap. 76, intitled, "An Act to provide for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales."

WE, the undersigned, Aldermen of the several Wards, and Presiding Officers of the Ward Elections of the said borough, having, with the Assessors of the said several wards, examined the Voting Papers delivered at the said Election, do hereby declare that the several persons hereinafter named and described have been elected Councillors by the burgesses of the several wards of the said borough, and that such Councillors have been respectively elected in and for the respective wards set opposite to their respective names. As witness our hands, this first day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty one.

EAST WARD.—JAMES HYMERS, Ellison-street, Gentleman, and CHARLES DUNN, West-street, Wharfinger, to supply the places of James Hymers and John Lister.

WEST WARD.—WILLIAM KENMIR, Mulgrave-terrace, Brewer, and THOMAS CUMMINS, Sedgewick-place, Painter, to supply the places of William Kenmir and Thomas Cummins.

SOUTH WARD.—THOMAS SOWERBY, Gateshead Low Fell, Merchant, and DANIEL ROBSON, Shipcote, Farmer, to supply the places of William Rowntree and John Wight.

W. H. BROCKETT, Alderman of the East Ward.
J. POLLOCK, Alderman of the West Ward.
MICHAEL HALL, Alderman and Deputy Presiding
Gateshead, Nov. 5, 1841. Officer of the South Ward.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE EAST WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—For the proud position in which you have this day placed me, accept my warmest thanks.

On my determined opposition to the selfish attempt of certain Boroughholders to appropriate to their own use the public property of the Borough, I founded my pretensions to your support. You have done me the honour of approving of my conduct, past as well as promised, by placing me at the head of the poll; and you have afforded an additional evidence of your confidence in me, by dispensing with the further services of a Candidate whose opinion on the Borough Property Question is notoriously at variance with mine.

These marks of your approbation will teach the would-be dividers of the Windmill Hills a useful lesson. So plain an expression of condemnation, as your this day's choice of Councillors conveys, will paralyze the spoliators of your property, and attract public attention, more intensely than ever, to rights which have been both flagrantly and shamelessly invaded.

The Boroughholder busy-bodies may say what they will, but, depend upon it, Gentlemen, they will long and bitterly remember this day, when you have not only rejected their champion who was most anxious to represent you, but have placed in his stead a gentleman who not only did not solicit such an honour at your hands, but was even unaware of your intention to select him as a Town Councillor.

Believe me, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient Servant,
Ellison-street, Nov. 1, 1841. JAMES HYMERS.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE WEST WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to offer you my sincere thanks for the confidence you have again placed in me, in electing me for the third time one of your Representatives in the Town Council; and I assure you it shall be my study to deserve the honour conferred, by a close attention to the duties of the office. I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,
THOMAS CUMMINS.
8, Sedgwick-place, Nov. 2d, 1841.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE WEST WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for re-electing me a Councillor of your Ward: it gratifies me as showing your approval of my past conduct. Allow me to assure you, that as long as I am a member of the Town Council, my duties shall be faithfully and attentively performed.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
Gateshead, Nov. 2d, 1841. WILLIAM KENMIR.

TO THE BURGESSES OF THE SOUTH WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—For the Honour you have conferred upon me, in electing me one of the members of the Council, accept my warmest Thanks, and be assured that I shall endeavour to discharge the Duties which the Office demands to the best of my abilities, with a constant view to promote the interests of the Borough.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
Shipcote, Nov. 1, 1841. DANIEL ROBSON.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—Accept my best thanks for the honour you have done me, by electing me one of your Representatives in the Town Council. Nothing, I assure you, is more gratifying to my feelings than the good opinion of my neighbours; and every exertion shall be made on my part to merit your approbation, by zealously discharging the duties imposed upon me. I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,
THOMAS SOWERBY.
Bellevue, Gateshead Low Fell, Nov. 3, 1841.

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TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—Accept my best thanks for the support you tendered me in the late contest. Although I have been unsuccessful, the number I polled affords good grounds for thinking that had I, in common with my opponents, used greater exertions on the occasion, my return as your Representative would have been certain: and the encouragement I received will fully justify me in again soliciting your suffrages on the occurrence of another vacancy.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
Ellison-street, Oct. 20, 1841. C. J. PEARSON.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the PARTNERSHIP lately subsisting between us the undersigned JOSEPH HAWKS, GEORGE HAWKS, GEORGE CRAWSHAY, and FRANCIS WILLIAM STANLEY, carrying on Business together as Steel and Iron Manufacturers, at Gateshead Iron Works, in the county of Durham, under the firm of "Hawks, Stanley, & Co.," and at Paul's Wharf, Upper Thames-street, in the City of London, under the Firm of "Hawks, Crawshay, & Stanley," was DISSOLVED on the 30th day of September last, by mutual Consent, so far as regards the said Joseph Hawks. All Debts due to and from the said late Partnership, will be received and paid by the said George Hawks, George Crawshay, and Francis William Stanley, by whom the business will be henceforth carried on, at the Places and under the Firms above mentioned. Witness our hands this 1st day of November, 1841.

JOSEPH HAWKS,
GEORGE HAWKS,
GEORGE CRAWSHAY,
FRANCIS WILLIAM STANLEY.

STATEMENT OF THE FUNDS FOR THE UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN.

July 19th, to October 26th, 1841.	Dr.		
Subscriptions received as per list,	£524	16	1
July 24th, to September 27th, 1841.	Cr.		
By paid Men for Draining and Levelling the Town Moor, 8,411 days' work,	£431	10	7
By 7,325 Rolls of Bread,	30	10	5
By paid for Shovels, Hacks, and Spades,	11	9	6
By paid for repairing ditto,	5	2	10
By paid for Cutting down Stepney-bank,	12	18	11
By Printing and Advertising, as per accounts,	20	12	0
Nov. 4th.	£512	4	3
By Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	12	11	10
	£524	16	1

ROBT. ROBINSON, Treasurer.

4th October, 1841, examined and found correct.
JOHN RIDLEY, Mayor.
WM. LOCKEY HARLE, Secretary.
WM. HOTHAM.
JOSEPH POLLARD.

NOTICE.—I, John ———, of ———, am a Widower, aged 45 years, and have a son and a daughter, the former of whom assists me in my business as foreman, and my daughter is upon the point of marriage with a neighbour-farmer. Her leaving me throws me quite destitute of a housekeeper. Any woman, therefore, whose eye this may meet, and wishing to exchange her single life for the marriage-state, she being of respectable family, will meet with a desirable home. I must not be suspected of being too proud of saying that I am of a very agreeable temper, about 5 feet 9 inches high, stout made, and possess a small independency and good business. I do not want any fortune with a wife: it is to have a comfortable home for life. If any one write to me, naming time and place, I will meet her, so that we may see and appoint for our future happiness. None through delicacy need be afraid to apply, as every secrecy shall be punctually kept. Letters to be addressed Z.Y.X., *Observer* Office, Gateshead. The Editor has my real name and address.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.
TO THE ELECTORS OF THE EAST WARD.

GENTLEMEN,—In thanking you for electing me a Councillor of your Ward, be assured I shall, on all occasions, endeavour to promote the interest and welfare of the Borough. I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,
Waterloo-terrace, Nov. 5, 1841. CHARLES DUNN.

GATESHEAD SOUP KITCHEN.

AT a Meeting of the Inhabitants of Gateshead favourable to the fitting up suitable premises for the Soup Kitchen, in lieu of those in the old Poor House about to be pulled down, convened by Public Advertisement, and holden in the Town Hall, on Monday the 25th October, 1841, the Mayor in the chair.

Resolved,—That as the premises which have hitherto been used as a Soup Kitchen in Gateshead can no longer be used for that purpose, it is expedient to provide other premises, conveniently situated, and in which a steam soup apparatus can be fitted up.

That a subscription be entered into for raising the requisite funds, and that as soon as a sufficient sum is subscribed, a meeting of the subscribers be convened for the purpose of appointing a committee to engage the premises, and superintend the fitting up of the apparatus.

That in case a larger sum shall be subscribed than shall be required for the fitting up, the surplus shall be transferred to the fund for supplying the poor with soup.

WILLIAM HYMERS, Mayor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Mayor	£2	2	0
The Rector	2	2	0
John Abbot	2	2	0
Charles Bulmer	2	2	0
J. Pollock	1	1	0
W. H. Brockett	1	1	0
John Barras	1	1	0
Thomas Swinburne	1	1	0
James Hymers	1	1	0
William Kell	1	1	0
John Greene	1	1	0
George Bell	1	1	0
William Brown	1	1	0
Joseph Hymers	1	1	0
T. H. Apedaile	1	1	0
William Douglas	0	5	0

Subscription lists lie at the shops of Messrs. Greene, Mr. Matchitt, Mr. Bell, Grocers; at the *Observer* office; and at the ffice of Mr. Kell, the Secretary.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

THE EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS and SCULPTURE in the Society's Rooms, in Market-street, will close on Saturday, the 27th instant.

N.B.—The Rooms are warmed by Arnold's water apparatus.

T. M. GREENHOW, } Secretaries.
WM. LOCKEY HARLE, }

Newcastle on Tyne, 5th Nov., 1841.

NORTHERN ASYLUM.

THE COMMITTEE of the Northern Asylum for the Blind and the Deaf and the Dumb, feel it incumbent upon them to return their most grateful acknowledgments to the Ladies' Patronesses of, and Contributors to, the Bazaar recently held in this town, for the kind and liberal manner in which they responded to the applications made to them on behalf of the charity. They also desire to return thanks to those Ladies who so efficiently presided and assisted at the Stalls, and to Lieut.-Col. Forbes for the readiness with which he permitted the attendance of the excellent Band of the 61st Regiment. ROBERT PLUMMER, Chairman.

Northern Asylum, Newcastle, Nov. 2d, 1841.

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THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p GEORGE SOWERBY, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
p Barras, John	*p* Cummins, T.	Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Brockett, W. H.	*p* Davis, R.	*p* Hymers, Jas.	*p* Robson, D.
p Hall, Michael	Dunn, Charles	*p* Hymers, Wm.	*p* Smith, James
p Pollock, James	Fairbairn, J.	*p* Kenmir, Wm.	*p* Sowerby, T.
Wilson, Thos.	*p* Forster, S.	*p* Potts, John	*p* Swan, Walker
		p Revely, T.	*p* Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked *p* were present.]

THE Council met Nov. 9.—The TOWN CLERK reported that Mr. James Hymers and Mr. Charles Dunn had been duly elected, on the 1st inst., Councillors for the East Ward; Messrs. Daniel Robson and Thomas Sowerby for the South Ward; and Messrs. Thomas Cummins and William Kenmir for the West Ward.

The Act against bribery having been read, Mr. ROBERT DAVIS proposed George Sowerby, Esq., as a fit and proper person to be the Mayor of the borough for the ensuing year. Mr. JAMES SMITH seconded the motion.

Mr. SOWERBY said, it had hitherto been the custom to select the Mayor from the Aldermen, and he saw no reason to depart from the precedent on the present occasion. He thought Mr. Ald. Wilson the fittest person, and he proposed him accordingly.

Mr. BROCKETT stated, that he was instructed by Mr. Wilson to say, that he (Mr. W.) had heard of an intention of proposing him, but that although he felt the compliment deeply, he must respectfully express his inability to take upon himself the office.

The MAYOR said, Mr. Wilson had also expressed the same thing to him.

Mr. BARRAS said he would have seconded Mr. Wilson's nomination with pleasure, had there been any prospect of his acceding to it.

Mr. Sowerby's nomination was then put to the vote, and carried unanimously.

The new MAYOR having taken the oaths, was led to the civic chair, and returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. He said it was quite unexpected to him, but having been elected he would endeavour to do his duty, and he trusted those who had served the office would favour him with their advice and assistance.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to the retiring Mayor, for the manner in which he had filled the office, (on the motion of Ald. HALL, seconded by Mr. W. SWAN).

The retiring MAYOR returned thanks.

The TOWN CLERK read the minutes of last meeting, and stated that three Aldermen were now to be elected in the place of Messrs. Abbot, Pollock, and Wilson, who went out of office.

The voting papers for Aldermen were then given in and examined—and it appeared that the voting was as follows:—

For Mr. Wilson, the whole of the Council present, (17).

For Mr. Pollock, Messrs. Hall, Barras, W. Hymers, Davis, Wylam, Kenmir, G. Sowerby, D. Robson, Smith, Potts, Cummins, Revely, T. Sowerby, Swan, and Forster, (15)

For Mr. George Sowerby (the new Mayor), Messrs. Brockett, Davis, Smith, J. Hymers, D. Robson, Potts, Revely, T. Sowerby, Forster, (9).

For Mr. William Hymers (the late Mayor), Messrs. Hall, Barras, Wylam, Kenmir, G. Sowerby, Cummins, Swan, and W. Hymers, (8.)

The first three were declared duly elected, and the Mayor and Mr. Pollock (the latter of whom entered the room at this moment) took the necessary oaths.

The quarterly meetings were fixed for the following Wednesdays:—February 9, May 11, and August 10, 1842, (on the motion of Mr. REVELY, seconded by Mr. WYLAM).

Mr. Ald. POLLOCK moved and Mr. Ald. BARRAS seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. WM. WYLAM, as Treasurer; and on their motion also he was unanimously re-elected.

Certain resolutions of the Watch Committee were read and confirmed, including a permission to Mr. Simpson to make a cellar under the footpath in High-street, on payment of an annual acknowledgment of one shilling.

Mr. BROCKETT inquired if all the acknowledgments due to the Council had been regularly paid. The TOWN CLERK said that many had not been paid—the largest being one from the Methodist chapel in High-street and another from Mr. Peareth:—and the latter had refused to pay. He also stated that no answer had been received from the Carlisle Railway Company as to the watering-place.

A Street Act assessment of ninepence in the pound was ordered, on the motion of Mr. WYLAM, seconded by Mr. Ald. BARRAS: the new assessment to be delivered to the Council on the 15th of December.

A watch-rate of sixpence was also ordered on the present limits of the Street Act, it not being deemed expedient to extend the limits, as requested by certain inhabitants of Bensham, through the medium of Mr. George Hawks.

The Finance Committee reported that the balance in the Treasurer's hands was £178 12s. 3d., and that outstanding and other debts would reduce that balance to £104 0s. 9d. The Committee therefore recommended a borough-rate of a halfpenny per pound to be levied—which was ordered, on the motion of Mr. Ald. BARRAS, seconded by Mr. Ald. HALL.—The rate to be payable on the 24th of January.

The TOWN CLERK reported that he had received an order from the Home Office to make a return of the names of all the Justices in the Commission of the Peace of the borough, specifying such as have died or had become disqualified by non-residence—which he had complied with—all the Justices being living, and resident according to law. He also reported that the census lately taken presented statistics of the borough which it was very desirable should be placed on the books. [*Gateshead*:—19,505 inhabitants: 3,290 inhabited houses—164 empty—41 building. *Heworth*:—618 inhabitants: 133 inhabited houses.] He also stated that the Bye Laws were now legally in force; and he read a list of the Committees for last year, and said it was worthy of remark that the attendance on *small* Committees had been better than on *large* ones.

The Aldermen of the Wards were appointed, and the Committees remodelled, as follows:—

TABLE OF THE COUNCIL,

Showing the Aldermen of Wards, and the Committees of which each Alderman or Councillor is a Member.

	Watch.	Finance.	Railway and Encroachment.	Scavenging.	Market.	Bye-Law.
Ald. Barras						
Ald. Brockett (East Ward)			—		—	—
Ald. Hall (South Ward)						
Ald. Pollock (West Ward)		—			—	—
Ald. George Sowerby (Mayor)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ald. Wilson			—			—
Mr. Thomas Cummins	—		—	—	—	
Mr. Robert Davis						
Mr. Charles Dunn	—	—		—		—
Mr. John Fairbairn						
Mr. Stephen Forster	—	—	—	—		
Mr. Edmund Graham	—					—
Mr. James Hymers	—		—			
Mr. William Hymers	—	—			—	—
Mr. William Kenmir	—	—	—			
Mr. John Potts	—	—	—	—		
Mr. Thomas Revely	—		—	—	—	
Mr. Daniel Robson	—					
Mr. Robert Robson						
Mr. Thomas Sowerby	—	—				
Mr. James Smith	—	—				
Mr. Walker Swan	—	—		—		
Mr. Ralph Wylam	—	—	—			

On the motion of Mr. Ald. BROCKETT, seconded by Mr. KENMIR, the Railway and Encroachment Committee was instructed to enforce the payment of all acknowledgments for encroachments, due to the Council.

The River Tyne Conservancy Committee reported that they had been in communication with parties at North and South Shields, but were not yet able to report further.—The Report was received, and the Committee re appointed.

Permission was granted to Mr. C. J. Pearson to remove the quay in front of the premises lately belonging to Mr. Pattison in the High-street.

Mr. KENMIR moved that the attendance of members on Committees be published, the same as the attendance on Council.

Mr. REVELY seconded the motion.

Mr. S. FORSTER objected, on the ground that persons were frequently unavoidably absent, and it would be hard to publish such cases to the public, when the absence might be occasioned by pressing business.

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Mr. Kenmir thought the cause of absence might be mentioned.

On the motion being put, there appeared for the motion—The Mayor, and Messrs. Kenmir, Revely, Brockett, Davis, Wylam, W. Hymers, Potts, Cummins, Thos. Sowerby, James Hymers, and Swan. Against it—Messrs. S. Forster, D. Robson, and J. Smith. Neuter—Ald. Barras, Ald. Hall, and Mr. Davis.

Mr. Swan called the attention of the Council to the shameful and almost impassable state of the footpath over the Windmill-hills, and moved that the matter be immediately referred to the Footpath Committee.

Mr. Revely seconded the motion, and thought the police should be instructed to take the names of persons trespassing on the road, and summon them before the Magistrates; and the resolution, so altered, was passed.

The Mayor called attention to the shocking state of the road from the west end of Pipewellgate to the railway-station, and a discussion took place as to the persons on whom the liability rested of keeping it in repair.

The Town Clerk thought that the Street Act Commissioners were bound to keep up the footpath, and the Surveyors of the Highways the bridle road, or carriage-way, if it were one.

The Mayor said, by lease the tenants were bound to keep the footpath in repair.

Referred to the Footpath Committee to do what was required for the protection of the public right to the road.

The Town Clerk reported that he had received information from Mr. Fairbairn, that he was not now a burgess of Gateshead, and was disqualified from being a Councillor of the said borough; and stated the law on the subject, according to high legal authorities.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Ald. Brockett moved that the subject be considered on the next assembling of the Council.

The motion was carried, and the Council adjourned to the 15th of December.

SUBSCRIPTIONS in Aid of the FUNDS of the GATESHEAD SOUP KITCHEN.

The Mayor	£2	2	0	William Brown	£1	1	0
The Rector	2	2	0	Joseph Hymers	1	1	0
John Abbot	2	2	0	T. H. Apedaile	1	1	0
Charles Bulmer	2	2	0	William Douglas	0	5	0
J. Pollock	1	1	0	William Caley	1	1	0
W. H. Brockett	1	1	0	H. L. Pattinson	1	1	0
John Barras	1	1	0	W. Walker	1	1	0
Thomas Swinburne	1	1	0	Benjamin Matchitt	1	1	0
James Hymers	1	1	0	John Geo. Abbot	1	1	0
William Kell	1	1	0	Rev. Thomas Speck	0	10	0
John Greene	1	1	0	William Angus	0	10	0
George Bell	1	1	0				

Subscription lists lie at the shops of Messrs. Greene, Mr. Matchitt, Mr. Bell, Grocers; at the *Observer* office; and at the office of Mr. Kell, the Secretary.

Mr. Usher, the Superintendent of Police, at the request of Messrs. James Hymers and W. H. Brockett, distributed the money allotted to their burgage-houses by the Boroughholders and Freemen, at the town-hall, Gateshead, on Tuesday last, immediately after the election of Mayor, amongst 268 poor persons, as follows:—12 at 1s. 6d., 131 at 1s., 114 at 9d., and 11 at 6d.: in all, £12.—This example will doubtless be followed—at least by all Boroughholders who were admitted previous to any attempt to divide the rents amongst themselves.

The Gateshead Council, we are happy to state, have taken in hand the present disgraceful condition of the footpath across the Windmill-hills, and we trust that they will effect a correction of this public grievance.

Mr. J. R. Wilson has become a candidate for the office of Councillor in the South Ward, Gateshead, vacant by the election of Mr. George Sowerby to the office of Alderman.

Mr. Laycock, jun., of Winlaton, has executed several beautiful electrotype casts—one of which, a copy of a Berlin cast-iron medal of Luther, now lies before us. We shall be happy to show to any of our friends this specimen of an ingenious application of science to the arts, which has lately excited considerable interest.

THE NEWCASTLE TOWN COUNCIL.

p James Hodgson, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	*p* Harle, W. L.	*p* Grey, Andrew	*N. St. Andrew.*
p Batson, T. R.	*p* Robinson, R.	*p* Parker, A.	*p* Philipson, R. P.
Bell, Thomas	*p* Stokoe, S.	*E. All Saints.*	*p* Keenlyside, T.
Bigge, C. J.	*p* Nichol, John	*p* Lowrey, S.	*p* Dodds, Ralph
p Brandling, J.	*p* Ingledew, H.	*p* Crawhall, J.	*p* Blackwell, J.
Carr, John	*St. John.*	*p* Shield, Henry	*p* Archbold, J.
p Donkin, A.	*p* Plues, Matthew	*p* Turner, Wm.	*p* Dunn, T.
p Dunn, G. T.	*p* Charnley, E	*p* Ridley, John	*Westgate.*
p Fife, John	*p* Mitchell, W. A.	*p* Rayne, R.	*p* Finlay, James
p Headlam, Dr.	*p* Burrell, I.	*S. St. Andrew.*	*p* Preston, J. H.
p Lamb, Joseph	*p* Story, Wm.	*p* Sanderson, F.	*p* Hawthorn, R.
p Losh, James	*p* Radford, J.	*p* Jobling, M. L.	*Jesmond.*
p Potter, A. L.	*W. All Saints.*	*p* Taylor, F.	*p* Plummer, R.
p Ridley J.	*p* Sillick, J.	*p* Nichol, A. (J.P.)	*p* Richardson, W.
St. Nicholas' Ward.	*p* Carr, J. T.	*p* Nichol, A.	*p* Palmer, Geo.
	p Proctor, W. B.	*p* Gray, A. G.	
p Straker, G.	*p* Johnson, J.	[Those marked *p* were present.]	

The Council met November 9, in pursuance of the Act of Parliament, to elect a Mayor and Sheriff for the ensuing municipal year, and seven Aldermen for the term of six years.

Mr. Ald. Ridley, the Mayor of the past year, took the chair shortly after 12 o'clock.

Mr. Ald. Losh immediately rose, and, after paying a compliment to his Worship on the manner in which he had worn his civic honours, proposed that Mr. Alderman Hodgson be elected in his stead. (Applause.)

Mr. John Nichol seconded the nomination.

Mr. Ald. Brandling, after regretting that Mr. Ald. Ridley's mayoralty was near its close, expressed his intention to nominate a candidate for the office about to be vacated. He had no personal objection to Mr. Ald. Hodgson, and would gladly have been spared the unpleasantness of opposing that gentleman's election, by taking the precedence in the nomination of a candidate; but his friend Mr. Losh had been too quick for him. (Laughter.) In proposing an opponent to Mr. Hodgson, he hoped to show sufficient reasons for the step he was taking, and to have a good muster upon his side in a division of the Council. (Laughter.) The body to which he had the honour of being a member had always professed the strictest loyalty to the Crown; and the Queen, they were all aware, had lately changed her political sentiments. (Great laughter.) Therefore, trusting to the loyalty and courtesy of the Council, he was sure they would not willingly elect a gentleman of opposite opinions to her Majesty, to be the bearer of their addresses to the Throne. (Laughter.) They would not send to Court a Councillor whose presence would ruffle the Queen (great laughter), but one who would be acceptable to her Majesty, and he had the pleasure of proposing for their adoption Mr. Robert Plummer. (Applause.)

Mr. A. G. Gray seconded the motion. He should regret if anything like political feeling intruded into the present election. (Laughter, and cries of "Oh, oh!") The Queen was of no political party—he did not believe that her Majesty had any political sentiments. (Laughter.) If the Queen had, he knew little of the Constitution of the country. Politics should not influence the election of municipal officers. Such was his opinion—and such was the opinion of Mr. Ald. Bigge. [Mr. Gray concluded with an extract from Mr. B.]

The Town Clerk proceeded to take a division of the Council on the two nominations. Upon coming, in due course, to Mr. Ald. Hodgson, he inquired for whom that gentleman voted. Mr. H. demurred, but Mr. Crawhall brusquely exclaimed that it was compulsory upon every member present to take part in the election. "Then," said Mr. H., "I vote for Alderman Hodgson." (Great laughter.) And Mr. Plummer, therefore, when his turn came round, replied to the Town Clerk's appeal—"Following the precedent that has been set, I vote for Mr. Plummer." (Laughter.)

The numbers having been cast up, the Town Clerk declared the result to be—For Mr. Ald. Hodgson, 37 votes: for Mr. Robert Plummer, 16. (Applause.)

For Alderman Hodgson.—Batson, Blackwell, Carr (J. T.), Charnley, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Dunn (T.), Fife, Finlay, Grey (Andrew), Harle, Headlam, Hodgson, Jobling, Johnson, Keenlyside, Lamb, Losh, Lowrey, Mitchell, Nichol (Justice), Nichol (A.), Nichol (John), Parker, Philipson, Plues, Potter, Proctor, Rayne, Ridley (Ald.), Ridley (John, jun.), Robinson, Shield, Sillick, Stokoe, Story, and Straker.

For Mr. Plummer.—Archbold, Brandling, Burrell, Crawhall, Dodds, Gray (A. G.), Hawthorn, Ingledew, Palmer, Plummer, Preston, Radford, Richardson, Sanderson, Taylor, and Turner.

Mr. Ald. Ridley vacated the chair, and invested his successor with the gold chain of office.

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The new MAYOR, on taking his seat, made an appropriate acknowledgment to the Council, and, for the satisfaction of Mr. Ald. Brandling, admitted that gentleman's perfect right, and, indeed, his bounden duty, to act upon his principles, and thanked him for the courtesy with which he had conducted the contest.

Mr. PLUMMER congratulated Mr. Ald. Hodgson upon his election. It was from no feeling of personal hostility that he had suffered himself to be put in nomination, but simply to afford the Council an opportunity of recording its opposition to a principle and a practice which had been severely animadverted upon out of doors. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. NICHOL, J.P., seconded by Mr. CHARNLEY, Mr. John Thomas Carr was unanimously appointed to the office of Sheriff.

Thanks were then given to the late Mayor, on the motion of Mr. Ald. LAMB, seconded My Mr. CRAWHALL; and to Mr. Archbold, the late Sheriff, on the motion of Mr. CRAWHALL, seconded by Mr. Ald. BRANDLING.

The next business was the election of seven Aldermen, in the room of those who were to retire, viz., Aldermen Bell, Bigge, Donkin, Dunn, Fife, Headlam, and Potter.

Mr. HARLE stated that it was his intention to act strictly upon the representative spirit of the Municipal Reform Bill. He would move that the election be conducted by open nomination, in the first instance; and it was his intention to propose that Councillors Robinson and Straker, of St. Nicholas' Ward, Dunn and Philipson, of North St. Andrew's Ward, Sillick, of West All Saints' Ward, Nichol (J.P.), of South St. Andrew's Ward, and Finlay, of Westgate Ward, be the new Aldermen. Thus seven vacancies would be created, and the retiring Aldermen would have an opportunity of presenting themselves to the burgesses for re-election to the Council. Mr. H. concluded by moving that an open nomination precede the delivery of voting papers.

Mr. STRAKER seconded the motion.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. PRESTON and Mr. A. G. GRAY spoke in favour of the motion. On a division, eight hands were raised in its favour, and a large majority against it. The voting papers were then collected by the TOWN CLERK; after which, the MAYOR read them aloud, one by one, naming the person voting, as well as the persons voted for, viz.:—

Batson, Blackwell, Carr (J. T.), Charnley, Dunn (T.), Finlay, Grey (Andrew), Hodgson, Jobling, Johnson, Keenlyside, Lamb, Losh, Lowrey, Mitchell, Nichol (John), Nichol (A.), Nichol (Justice), Parker, Philipson, Plues, Rayne, Ridley (Alderman), Ridley (John, jun.), Robinson, Shield, Sillick, Stokoe, and Story, voted for the seven retiring Aldermen.

Burrell, Ingledew, Radford, Richardson, Sanderson, Taylor, and Turner, voted for Archbold, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, Plummer, and Proctor.

Gray (A. G.) and Palmer voted for Archbold, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, Nichol (Justice), and Plummer.

Dodds voted for Archbold, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Dunn (T.), Headlam, and Plummer.

Brandling voted for Archbold, Bell, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, and Plummer.

Preston voted for Archbold, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, Mountain, and Plummer.

Hawthorn voted for Archbold, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, Plummer, and Potter.

Archbold voted for Crawhall, Dunn (G. T.), Donkin, Fife, Headlam, Plummer, and Potter.

Crawhall voted for Archbold, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, Philipson, Plummer, and Proctor.

Plummer voted for Archbold, Bell, Crawhall, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Headlam, and Proctor.

Straker voted for Dunn (T.), Finlay, Harle, Jobling, Keenlyside, Nichol (John), and Proctor.

Proctor voted for Bigge, Donkin, Dunn (G. T.), Fife, Headlam, Philipson, and Sillick.

Harle voted for Dunn (T.), Finlay, Nichol (Justice), Philipson, Robinson, Sillick, and Straker.

Mr. George Thomas Dunn	46	Mr. Thomas Dunn	3
Mr. Armorer Donkin	46	Mr. A. Nichol, J.P.	3
Dr. Headlam	46	Mr. James Finlay	2
Mr. Thomas Bell	31	Mr. James Sillick	2
Mr. A. L. Potter	31	Mr. John Mountain	1
Sir John Fife	31	Mr. T. W. Keenlyside	1
Mr. Charles John Bigge	30	Mr. John Nichol	1
Mr. Robert Plummer	15	Mr. W. L. Harle	1
Mr. Joseph Crawhall	15	Mr. M. L. Jobling	1
Mr. James Archbold	15	Mr. Robert Robinson	1
Mr. W. B. Proctor	10	Mr. George Straker	1
Mr. R. P. Philipson	3		

The MAYOR declared the election to have fallen upon the seven late Aldermen. (Applause.)

Mr. A. G. GRAY rose and said, that he felt called upon to protest most strongly against the election of three gentlemen, Sir John Fife, Mr. Bell, and Mr. Bigge, on the ground of their previous gross neglect of their public duties. (Cries of "Hear, hear," "Order, order," and great excitement.)

Mr. William Armstrong was re-appointed Treasurer; Police-Inspectors Handiside and Harrison were appointed Inspectors of Meat, &c.; and the quarterly meetings of the Council were appointed to be held on the first Wednesdays of February, May, and August, 1842.

The Aldermen of Wards were chosen, and the Committees remodelled, as follows:—

TABLE OF THE COUNCIL,

Showing the Aldermen of Wards, and the Committees of which each Alderman or Councillor is a Member.

	Watch.	Finance.	Town Improvement.	River.	Gaol.	Corporate Property.	Trade and Commerce.	Schools, Charities, &c.
Ald. Batson (South St. Andrew's Ward)				—			—	
Ald. Bell			—	—	—		—	
Ald. Bigge			—					—
Ald. Brandling		—						
Ald. Carr (West All Saints' Ward)	—			—				
Ald. Donkin (Jesmond Ward)		—				—		
Ald. Dunn (Westgate Ward)		—				—		
Ald. Fife (St. Nicholas' Ward)	—		—					
Ald. Headlam (North St. Andrew's Ward)			—					
Ald. Hodgson (Mayor)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ald. Lamb								
Ald. Losh	—				—	—		—
Ald. Potter (St. John's Ward)				—		—		
Ald. Ridley (East All Saints' Ward)	—	—						
Mr. James Archbold		—			—			
Mr. John Blackwell	—			—				
Mr. Isaac Burrell	—						—	
Mr. J. T. Carr (Sheriff)	—						—	—
Mr. Emerson Charnley		—				—		
Mr. Joseph Crawhall		—	—					—
Mr. Ralph Dodds			—	—				
Mr. Thomas Dunn	—		—					
Mr. James Finlay			—		—	—		
Mr. Alexander George Gray	—		—					—
Mr. Andrew Grey			—					
Mr. R. Hawthorn				—				—
Mr. W. L. Harle			—					—
Mr. Henry Ingledew						—		
Mr. Mark Lambert Jobling				—		—		
Mr. Joshua Johnson		—		—		—		
Mr. T. W. Keenlyside						—	—	—
Mr. Stephen Lowrey		—		—		—	—	
Mr. William Andrew Mitchell			—	—				
Mr. Anthony Nichol				—				
Mr. Anthony Nichol, J.P.		—				—	—	
Mr. John Nichol	—	—						
Mr. George Palmer				—		—		
Mr. Anthony Parker			—	—				
Mr. Ralph Park Philipson		—				—		
Mr. Matthew Plues	—	—						
Mr. Robert Plummer		—					—	
Mr. John Hughes Preston	—	—						
Mr. William Brownsword Proctor	—				—			
Mr. James Radford			—		—			—
Mr. Robert Rayne			—					
Mr. William Richardson	—		—					
Mr. John Ridley, jun.	—			—				
Mr. Robert Robinson			—	—		—		
Mr. Francis Sanderson	—		—					
Mr. Henry Shield					—			
Mr. James Sillick		—				—		
Mr. Samuel Stokoe, jun.	—				—			
Mr. William Storey				—		—		
Mr. George Straker		—		—			—	
Mr. F. Taylor		—			—			
Mr. William Turner	—					—		

Mr. HARLE gave notice, that at the next meeting of the Council he would move that it be an instruction to the Town Improvement Committee to consider in what way the Guildhall might be rendered more commodious for public meetings.

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The Council adjourned, after the transaction of unimportant business, to Nov. 24.

THIRTEEN THOUGHTS.

BY A SILENT MEMBER OF THE NEWCASTLE TOWN-COUNCIL.

I *think* there was a good muster of us in Council to day, and no lack of earwigging before the ball was opened.

I *think* Losh lost no time in jumping up, after the chair was taken. The Tories must select a younger man than "juvenile John," if they wish to obtain the start of the Liberals in future elections.

I *think* "the ladies' man" made fine fun of poor Plummer. It was too bad in Brandling to burlesque the pretensions of his protegé.

I *think* it need not make the new Mayor *very* proud, to say that he will cut as good a figure in a court-dress as Mr. Robert Plummer!

I *think* Alexander George did his best, and his worst, to assist the Alderman in turning the nomination into ridicule. The Queen is a Tory—therefore send a Tory Mayor to Court—said Plummer's proposer! The Queen has no politics—is a mere puppet—therefore pay no attention to politics in this election—said Plummer's seconder! Again I say—"Poor Plummer!"

I *think* that Alderman Hodgson was in the right to despise the mock-modesty of voting against himself, and that Councillor Plummer could not do better than follow so good an example. In Gateshead, I am told, a worthy candidate for aldermanic honours had the good-luck to obtain his own vote, and that of his antagonist into the bargain. But, unlike James Hodgson, he had *not* the luck to be elected.

I *think* that Hernaman's sneer at the proprietor of the *Chronicle* is excusable. Consider the provocation! The burgesses won't even make the *Journal*-genius a Councillor, and Hodgson has graduated as Councillor—Alderman—Mayor. Then let us not be too hard upon Hernaman. He may well feel sore, poor fellow, that the *Chronicle* is Mayor of Newcastle, and the *Mercury* and the *Courant* are in the Council, while the *Journal* is excluded.

I *think* that the new Mayor made what the Press would call a "neat speech," on taking the civic chair. His "inaugural discourse" exceeded my expectations.

I *think* that Straker's complaint of his treatment in the late mayoralty, was rather ill-timed. But George does not profess to be a model of good taste.

I *think* that Lockey Harle was right in principle, when he proposed to send the retiring Aldermen back to the burgesses. The original Municipal Bill—the measure so warmly approved of by the Whigs (the said Aldermen included)—made the whole Council elective by the burgesses. The shortsighted Lords thrust the Aldermen into the Bill, and the stone which they threw at the democratic principle has rebounded upon their own wise heads. Neither they nor their Tory admirers, it must be admitted, can have any reason to complain that Liberal Councillors strengthen their party by the election of Liberal Aldermen. But I would have the Liberals to be true to their principles, and not perpetuate a class of members of Council, who never come in refreshing contact with a constituency. Let them choose new Aldermen from amongst the freely-chosen Councillors, leaving the retiring Aldermen to appeal to the ratepayers whether or not they shall continue to sit in the Council. There will be no degradation in this. It is surely, to say the least of it, equally as honourable to be a popularly-elected Councillor, as a Council-elected Alderman. "But some of the retiring Aldermen may be defeated in the wards." Well! what of that? Better that we should lose a good man or two, now and then, than be afraid of our principles. As the matter now stands, our Aldermanic Liberals, like the poor tailor who lost his termagant wife, are apt to go "blue mouldy" for want of a beating.

I *think*, however, that the new Councillor for St. Nicholas' Ward, although the principle which he laid down was sound, did not make a favourable "first appearance." He must not expect to seize a municipal reputation by storm. As the *Journal* would say, he should not "mingle" much in municipals, until he is more "at home" in the Council-room.

I *think* that Alexander George was crushingly cruel to the "clique" or "conclave" that re-elected the Aldermen. But prithee, friend Gray, how happened it that so many of you *chanced* to hit upon that Tory trio, Archbold, Crawhall, and Plummer, in your voting-papers? Oh! Sandy, Sandy! I doubt there are more "cliques" than one! more "back-shops" than Councillor Charnley's!

I *think* with Mr. Gray that public men should not neglect their public duties. But his spite at Sir John should not be indulged at the expense of justice. Mr. Gray attended *twelve* of the thirteen Council meetings held in the past year. Very good! But Sir John attended *eleven*—and that (as the Scotch folks said of Mrs. Siddons's acting) is "no bad." Mr. Brandling, the ally of Mr. Gray, attended only *nine*. Mr. Bell and Mr. Bigge, who have also fallen under Mr. Gray's public-spirited censure, attended—the former *eight*, and the latter *five*. Mr. Hawthorn also attended *eight*, and Mr. Radford *six*. Mr. Gray's rebuke, therefore, if it have any weight, falls alike on friend and foe.—That any Councillor would record his protest against Mr. Gray's conduct, were *he* to absent himself from Council-meetings, is not the opinion of A THINKING MAN.

Newcastle, Nov. 9.

The Chamber-of-Commerce Committee, Newcastle, met yesterday, when a communication was read from Sir E. Parry (who is now in Scotland surveying the Caledonian Canal), requesting the opinion of the Chamber as to the proposed deepening of the canal to 17 feet, and as to the propriety of continuing or withdrawing the grant of public money hitherto made in aid of the canal. Sir E. Parry is to be at the Queen's Head, Newcastle, on Wednesday.—With regard to the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Grieveson, in the office of Secretary, it was resolved by the Committee that it should be filled up at the anniversary meeting in January.—We are glad to learn that it is in contemplation to open a regular office, in which the papers and documents of the Chamber can be accessible to the members at all times, and thereby be rendered of some service to the public.—Nov. 13.

CHURCH LEASES.

MR. W. BAINBRIDGE, of Newcastle, who is already so favourably known to the public by his able exposition of the "Law of Mines and Minerals," has published a pamphlet on the subject of Church Leases, in the shape of a Letter to Sir Robert Peel, in which he strongly and ably urges upon the Premier the propriety—nay, the absolute necessity—of the settlement of that very important question—doubly important in a district like this, in which such an immense quantity of property is held under Church Leases; and we are sure the pamphlet will be read with attention by all who feel interested in the subject. Mr. Bainbridge states the origin of those leases, clearly and concisely, as follows:—

"Previous to the restraining statutes of Elizabeth, it has been supposed that the possessions of the Church might have been alienated to an unlimited extent. The leases and conveyances of Deans and Chapters were operative at once. Those of Archbishops and Bishops required the confirmation of the temporal patron; and those of the inferior Clergy required to be confirmed by both the spiritual and temporal patron. The enabling statutes of Henry enlarged the powers of sole Ecclesiastical Corporations, by dispensing with the necessity for confirmation, on their complying with the conditions of the statute. The restraining statutes of Elizabeth prevented all ecclesiastical persons, whether with confirmation or not, from alienating the lands of the Church for a longer period than for three lives, or for twenty-one years. By a subsequent Act of Elizabeth, ecclesiastical persons, except Archbishops and Bishops, were enabled to grant leases of houses in cities and towns for the period of forty years. The effect of these and other statutes was an immense alienation of Church property by the clergy. The gross impolicy of these enabling statutes has since been sufficiently shown. The clergy of those days, instead of being simply allowed to receive the fair annual rents of the estates, were thus empowered, for a stipulated price or fine, to make an enormous disposition of the property, in some cases almost of the whole inheritance, to a lessee, or, as he might with more propriety be called, a purchaser, who thus acquired an indefeasible estate for the period on the payment of a mere nominal rent. It has been shown that a full term of twenty-one years leaves to the owners of the reversion but one-third of the whole inheritance, and that it would be possible to fix upon three such lives as would give to the lessee an interest in the property amounting to 94 per cent. Immense sums of money were thus extracted by the incumbents of the Church. Even after the Restoration it is stated that the fines for full leases amounted to upwards of £1,500,000. By this system of legalized robbery, the Church was despoiled by the very ministers of its altars, and there was entailed upon a long line of clerical successors a diminished and uncertain income, which was to be derived by a difficult and disadvantageous system of management. The consequence of the system thus commenced was in reality to vest the ownership in these estates in the lessees. They became the actual landlords, subject simply to the payment of periodical fines, calculated upon ascertained principles, like a copyholder of inheritance, whose estate is subject to the payment of a fine, or the render of a heriot. Their leases contained none of the usual covenants inserted in such instruments, and no reservations except timber and mines."

The chapters on the present condition of the Church lands, the means of their improvement, the terms of enfranchisement, and on the mines and way-leaves of the diocese of Durham, are very interesting, and the author treats the subject with great ability; but we are so pressed with municipal and other matters this week, that we can only add the concluding words of Mr. Bainbridge's letter:—

"I feel conscious (says he) of being as deeply attached to the true interests of the Church as any of its clergy. But if I love the Church, I love still more what I consider to be the truth. If I have found much to blame, I have also found much to commend; and I have, I hope, uniformly endeavoured to advocate for the Church its right to a fair participation in the profits of the property. I may be further permitted to say, that this question should be settled with the full concurrence of the Church, and that those who have sought a settlement in any other manner, have done little benefit to the cause of enfranchisement. The Church and its lessees should simply be considered as parties applying to Parliament for the amicable arrangement of their relations to each other. The idea that *both* these parties, whose interests seemed so ad

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verse to each other, could benefit by a scheme of enfranchisement, has been treated with ridicule. But it is not the less true. The whole evidence on the subject proves this statement. It is in this spirit, therefore that Parliament should be called on to interfere. With these feelings of mutual confidence the subject should be approached; and, under the guidance of these feelings, the lands of the Church may be rescued from their anomalous condition, and no longer exist as a reproach to so many who are connected either with their profits or their history."

HER MAJESTY'S ACCOUCHEMENT.—BIRTH OF A PRINCE.

(From the *Globe*, Nov. 9.)

We are happy to be able to announce that her Majesty was safely delivered this morning, at ten minutes to eleven, of a Prince, who is by birth the Duke of Cornwall, and who will, in the course of a day or two, be created Prince of Wales.

The first symptoms of approaching labour commenced this morning at six o'clock, and after a short time subsided, but soon returned—and, with the blessing of Divine Providence, eventuated in the birth of an Heir to the Throne.

There were present on the occasion, as at the birth of the Princess Royal, in her Majesty's room, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Dr. Locock, and Mrs. Lilly, the monthly nurse. In the adjoining apartments, besides the medical attendants (Sir James Clark, Dr. Ferguson, and Mr. Blagden), were her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Lady in Waiting on the Queen, and the following Officers of State and Lords of the Privy Council, viz., the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, the Duke of Wellington, Bishop of London, Sir Robert Peel, Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Aberdeen, Sir James Graham, the Lord Chancellor, and the Marquis of Exeter (Groom of the Stole to Prince Albert.

The illustrious infant is a remarkably fine, full-grown, robust, well-proportioned, and healthy child.

At a few minutes after two o'clock, a double royal salute of forty-one guns was fired on the parade in St. James's Park, to announce the auspicious event to the public, who assembled in considerable numbers to witness the ceremony.

The news of her Majesty's accouchement spread through the metropolis like wild fire, in a very short time after the happy event had taken place; and the fact of a Prince and Heir to the Throne having been born, was everywhere received with the warmest feelings of loyalty and satisfaction.

London has, during the whole day, worn the appearance of a general holiday—the City, from the fact of its being Lord Mayor's day—and the West-End, in consequence of the birth of his little Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The Privy Council being assembled as soon as possible, at the Council-Chamber, Whitehall, it was ordered that a form of thanksgiving for the Queen's safe delivery of a Prince be prepared by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to be used in all churches and chapels throughout England and Wales, and the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, on Sunday, the 14th of November, or the Sunday after the respective ministers shall receive the same.

It is said that in consequence of the birth of the Prince having taken place on Lord Mayor's day, it is likely that some mark of the royal favour will be conferred upon both the new Lord Mayor and the functionary whose term of office ceased but yesterday.

An erroneous impression appears to prevail, that in the event of the birth of a Prince of Wales, conformity with usage would require a creation of Peers and Baronets in honour of the event. We know not what circumstances may have given rise to this expectation, but it seems to have no warrant from precedent. On the last occasion of the birth of a Prince of Wales, the 12th of August, 1762, we cannot find that there was any creation of Peers or Baronets. There appear certainly to have been three English Barons created in 1762—but these creations took place in May, and could, of course, have no connexion with the birth of the Prince of Wales. Neither are we aware that any addition was made to the list of Baronets in 1762 on account of that event.

The Duke of Cornwall, at his birth, is considered of full age in his capacity as possessor of that Duchy, and immediately succeeds to the enjoyment, for his separate use, of all its revenues, &c.

(From the *Morning Chronicle*, Nov. 10.)

The auspicious event, although daily anticipated for the past fortnight, has come upon the country with a pleasurably sudden surprise; and those grateful emotions are considerably enhanced by the official announcement with which the *Gazette Extraordinary* concludes:—"Her Majesty and the infant Prince are, God be praised, both doing well."

Although not generally known to the public until half past eleven o'clock, there were certain indications in the immediate vicinity of Buckingham Palace which prepared those who take early exercise in St. James's-park for an event in the happy issue of which all felt more or less anxiety. During the whole of Monday her Majesty continued in the full enjoyment of her usual health and spirits, and even, as stated in the *Court Circular*, took her accustomed walk in the Palace garden, accompanied only by her Royal consort, Prince Albert. There were no commands for the Royal table on that evening, three covers only being laid—for the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Duchess of Kent, the latter illustrious personage having been a constant inmate of the Palace since her Royal Highness's return from the continent. Soon after dinner was served, her Majesty complained of fatigue, and evinced such other symptoms as induced the Duchess of Kent to direct the immediate attendance of Sir James Clark and Dr. Locock in the ante-room. The result of the conference was, that a special messenger was despatched, at a quarter past ten o'clock that night, to the residence of Sir Robert Peel, in Whitehall-gardens, to apprise the right hon. baronet that the accouchement of her Majesty might probably take place before the next morning. On receipt of this intelligence, expresses were sent off to the Archbishop of Canterbury the Bishop of London, and to the several cabinet ministers, in order that they might hold themselves in readiness, should their presence be required during the night. Her Majesty, however, becoming more composed towards midnight, Sir James Clark and Dr. Locock judged that her Majesty's accouchement would not, in all probability, take place for several hours: and this opinion they communicated to Prince Albert, through the Lord Steward and the Lord Chamberlain. The medical officers already named, however, deemed it right to send for Dr. Ferguson and Mr. Blagden, both of whom promptly attended the summons, and remained at the palace during the night.

Between six and seven o'clock yesterday morning (Tuesday), her Majesty's symptoms assuming that distinctive character peculiar to her critical situation, the several cabinet ministers and great officers of state were summoned by special messengers, whose departure from the Pimlico gate attracted even at that early hour of the morning the notice of the inhabitants of the neighbouring streets, and the intelligence soon spread to more remote quarters of the west end. Sir Robert Peel arrived at the Palace a few minutes before eight o'clock, and was received by the Lord Steward. The right honourable baronet had an immediate interview with the medical gentlemen, and was assured that her Majesty was going on most favourably. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Bishop of London arrived at ten o'clock, and were speedily followed by the Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Aberdeen, Sir James Graham, the Marquis of Exeter, and some other noblemen and commoners, members of the Cabinet or Privy Council.

Her Majesty's *accouchement* took place, as stated in the *Gazette Extraordinary*, at ten minutes before eleven o'clock, a.m. There were in the royal chamber at the time the Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, Sir Robert Peel, the Bishop of London, the Duke of Wellington, the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward, the Lady in Waiting, the Medical Attendants, and Mrs. Lilly, the monthly nurse. The other ministers and principal officers and ladies of the household were admitted to the ante-room. The sex of the Royal Infant was announced by Sir James Clark to the anxious group of distinguished personages assembled in the Royal chamber, and subsequently to those collected in the ante-room, exciting in every bosom unspeakable emotions of joy and gratitude. Prince Albert received the congratulations appropriate to the occasion with graceful affability.

The safety of her Majesty and that of the infant prince having been ascertained, the various persons summoned to witness the interesting event quitted the palace, with the exception of Sir Robert Peel, who remained until twelve o'clock, when the right honourable baronet proceeded to Whitehall, to attend a privy council, specially summoned, at which the *Gazette Extraordinary* was ordered to be issued, announcing her Majesty's

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safe accouchement, and the birth of a prince. The council rose at two o'clock, and as the several ministers departed, the populace cheered lustily for "The Queen and the Prince of Wales," the intelligence having by that time spread all over the western extremity of the metropolis.

The union jack was hoisted from the steeples of the several parish churches, and the Park and Tower guns fired royal salutes, half-minute time, at two o'clock; the ships and steamers below bridge displaying the gayest ensigns. This, together with the gorgeous pageant exhibited on the river during the aquatic procession of the new Lord Mayor to and from Westminster, rendered "Old Father Thames" a most animated and attractive feature in the combined festivities of the day.

The Duke of Wellington looked in better health and in higher spirits than for many years past. After the council had broken up, his grace, who went on horseback to the palace, entered the park through the Horse Guards gate, and meeting with the Earl of Liverpool, who was on foot, his grace alighted, and giving his horse to the groom, took the Earl of Liverpool's arm, and walked across the park, followed by an immense concourse of persons, who cheered his grace most vehemently all the way up Constitution-hill, and until he entered Apsley-house. The duke frequently acknowledged the congratulations of the multitude, and seemed pleased with the spontaneous fervour of their enthusiasm.

It is worthy of historical record, that her Majesty is the first Queen regnant who has given birth to a male heir apparent to the British throne.

NEW MAYORS.

Gateshead	George Sowerby, Esq.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	James Hodgson, Esq.
Durham	John Bramwell, Esq.
Sunderland	Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.
Stockton	Robinson Watson, Esq.*
Morpeth	William Clarke, Esq.
Richmond	Christopher Croft, Esq.
Liverpool	J. S. Leigh, Esq., (Tory).†
York	Alderman Cobb.
Leeds	Alderman Pawson.
Berwick-upon-Tweed	Dr. Cahill.
Edinburgh	Sir James Forrest, Bart.
Glasgow	Hon. James Campbell.

ALDERMEN.—At Sunderland, Messrs. R. Spoor, R. White, B. Sharp, and J. Allison, were re-elected; and Messrs. R. Gregory, R. B. Cay, and E. Bowmaker, were elected in the room of Dr. Clanny, and Messrs. T. Brown and W. Kirk. At Morpeth, Messrs. A. R. Fenwick and J. Thew were re-elected.

* Mr. Watson having refused to accept the office of Mayor, the town-council of Stockton will meet this day (Saturday), to elect some other gentleman—probably Mr. T. Walker, who was nominated on Tuesday.

† The Liverpool Tories have gained a majority in the town-council. The following are the causes of their success, as given by an authority on which we can rely:—

"1. The unpopularity of Liberal magistrates, and persons in power, amongst publicans, &c., produced by doing their duty independently.

"2. The dock-warehouse question. The system is an immense improvement to the port, but is at variance with the private and powerful interests of warehouse-owners, cart-owners, &c.

"3. The never-ceasing labours of political parsons, (M'Neile & Co.,) working upon the minds of the *male* women of the borough, old and young.

"4. A great profusion of Tory gold. Perhaps the Liberals did a little in this way also; but the stake was great (the regaining of the town hall), and the Tories were the highest bidders. The votes on sale are numerous—and there are lots of skulkers that go out of town. In art, the place is rotten and Tory-ridden."

Well! really, the causes seem as honourable as the success itself. We wish the Tories joy of both.

GATESHEAD-FELL PUBLIC-ROOMS.

THE opening dinner of the new and substantial Public Rooms, erected on the road-side in that spirited and improving suburb of this borough, known by the name of "The Low Fell," took place on Monday, November the 9th. The establishment includes a spacious hall and school—(the latter of which is occupied by Mr. Davidson, the schoolmaster, rent-free). In the former, the tables were set out for the opening entertainment; and the company extended to about 80 persons, including all classes of the inhabitants, the admission-ticket having been fixed at a low price, to secure this desirable object.

THOMAS WILSON, Esq., the President of the institution, occupied the chair. On his right sat the Rev. William Atkinson, Rector of Gateshead Fell, Mr. W. L. Harle, a Councillor of Newcastle, Mr. W. H. Brockett, Alderman of Gateshead, and the Rev. Joseph M'Alister. On his left, William Hymers Esq., Mayor of Gateshead, Mr. George Sowerby, Councillor of Gateshead, and Mr. Hudson, of Chester-le-Street. Mr. THOMAS FERGUSON and Mr. THOMAS SOWERBY, were the vice-chairmen. Among the company were:—The Rev. Mr. Bewsher, Dr. Glover, and Messrs. Daniel Robson, Joseph Robson, John Barkus, William Barkus, William Kell, B. Myers, J. R. Wilson, Thomas Wilson, jun., Francis Bennett, James Hymers, J. G. Abbot, William Douglas, R. Davis, Thomas Cummins, W. Adamthwaite, John Wright, M. R. Legge, R. Hetherington, Hewitt, Gisburne, Nixon, Neilson, Walker, Kent, Liddell, Stokoe, &c. &c. &c.

A good plain dinner, provided at the Gateshead Arms, having been disposed of by the company, the healths of "The Queen," "The Princess Royal, Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family," and "William Hutt, Esq., M.P. for Gateshead," were drunk with due honours.

The CHAIRMAN then rose to propose the toast of the evening—"Success to the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms." He congratulated his friends and neighbours on the erection of the noble building in which they were now assembled. This was a further step in that march of improvement which had been going on amongst them in the last half century. Fifty years ago, how different was the scene on Gateshead Fell! The basis of the improvement that had been made was laid by the Wesleyan Methodists. (Applause.) By their Sunday-schools, and the other means which they had adopted, a regeneration had been effected in the morals and manners of the people. There was at that time no church on the Fell—no rector going about doing good. (Applause.) Within the period to which he alluded, three measures had been taken of a beneficial nature—the common had been divided, the course of the high-road had been changed, and a church had been built. Each of these had been productive of happy consequences. Many respectable and well-disposed families had been induced to take up their abode in the place, some of whom had representatives present on this occasion, and all of them, he believed, had contributed to the erection of this building. (Applause.) The inhabitants had always pulled well together, but never, perhaps, had any of their projects been so unanimously and cordially carried out, as the establishment of the new Public Rooms; and now that they were completed, he hoped that a kind and Christian spirit would ever predominate in the management of the institution, and that the greatest possible good would be the result. (Applause.) A talented and respectable master had been appointed, and the doors were open to the admission of scholars on reasonable terms. It only remained for parents to send their children to be taught. If this were neglected, then the labour and outlay would all be thrown away. But he would not anticipate so undesirable an issue. The wealthier inhabitants had done *their* duty—the poorer classes would imitate the good example. A good education for their children was placed within their reach; and surely, when they could endow them with so little else, they would not deny their children this most important boon. It was almost the only means by which the poor man's child could better his worldly condition; and if even it were not followed by this result, it would open up to him endless sources of pleasure and instruction, and lead him to the knowledge of his duty to his Maker and his fellow-men. (Applause.) With these few remarks he would propose—"Success to the Gateshead Fell Public Rooms." (Three times three.)

Mr. JOHN WRIGHT replied to the toast in a poetic address, in which Gateshead was sarcastically reproached with her want of public spirit, in permitting the Fell to outstrip her in the career of improvement.

Mr. THOMAS SOWERBY proposed—"The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. ATKINSON returned thanks. The Bishop, he observed, was a zealous friend of the education of youth, and a liberal contributor to the erection of the Public Rooms. (Applause.) The rev. gentleman gave—"The Mayor and Corporation of Gateshead." (Applause.)

The MAYOR replied.—He hoped soon to see his friends of the Fell assembled in the projected Public Rooms of Gateshead. (Cheers.)

Glee by Messrs. FERRY, HANN, DAWSON, and RICHARDSON, "Life's a Bumper."

Mr. FERGUSON gave—"The Chairman." (Three times three.)

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The CHAIRMAN, in reply, observed, that it was always his desire to render every service in his power to his native village; and he did not believe that there ever was a man, anxious to do good, who was so well supported as he had been by his neighbours. (Applause.)

Song by Mr. FERRY, "The fine old English Gentleman."

Mr. BROCKETT, with a warm eulogium on the conduct of the reverend gentleman as a parish-priest, proposed—"The Rector of Gateshead Fell." (Three times three.)

The Rev. W. ATKINSON acknowledged the toast. When he was on the eve of coming to reside at Gateshead Fell, he was told that he would meet with nothing but poverty and destitution, coarse words and sulky looks. (Great laughter.) But during his three years' residence, he had experienced unvarying kindness from all his parishioners. Their coarse words he had not yet heard—their sulky looks he had yet to see; and as to their destitution, he was happy to say that he had never detected its presence. Poverty of means did not exist amongst them:—but poverty of one kind, he regretted to say, did prevail to a considerable extent—he referred to poverty of education. This was an evil that could not too soon be removed, and he trusted that the cause of education upon the Fell would go on and prosper. (Applause.)

Mr. FERGUSON called upon Mr. Walker for "a duet." (Great laughter.)

Mr. WALKER wondered how his friend Mr. Ferguson expected him to "do it." (Laughter, and cries of "Whistle it!") Whistle it? Why, that was not a very dignified way of amusing a public company, but he would do anything to gratify his friends. [Mr. Walker then whistled the duet of "All's Well," and in such a manner that many persons, previously unaware of his singular powers, could hardly believe that there were not two whistlers at work.]

Mr. HARLE proposed—"National Education." (Cheers.)

Mr. WRIGHT was requested to favour the company with a song, written by himself for the occasion; but he handed over his composition to Mr. FERRY, who sung it as the author's deputy. It was of a mixed character—partly teetotal, partly bacchanalian—and an excellent parody both on "The banks of Allan water," and "There's nae luck about the house." We give a copy:—

On the banks of Carter's water,
In the spring and in the fall,
May be seen the pitman's daughter,
The blithest of them all.
To the Gateshead Arms you wander,
Where the School Committee sat
On their plans and other banter,
Or join'd in solemn chat.
There is no luck upon the Fell,
There is no luck at a':
There's no good-luck upon the Fell,
Our Committee is awa'.

From the banks of Carter's water,
When the spring is bright and clear,
Comes the landlord's lovely daughter,
Her father's guests to cheer
With the limpid stream refreshing,
So dear to thirst and food,
In the sparkling glass reflecting,
Bright beams the crystal flood.
Then get your kettle boiling,
Good landlord 'tis our will,
Or our grog you will be spoiling,
For the ladies on the Fell!

On the banks of Carter's water,
Where many a social hour
Is spent in mirth and laughter,
When the day's hard work is o'er,
And the landlord's kettle's boiling,
Mix your grog, and glasses fill,
When in fun and frolic joining,
We'll drink with right good-will.
There must be lush upon the Fell,
What ever comes awa':
Ye see our Public Buildings swell:
Oh! prosper may they a'!

Mr. G. SOWERBY proposed—"The health of Cuthbert Ellison, Esq., Lord of the Manor, a liberal subscriber to the rooms, and an excellent landlord;" and Mr. ADAMTHWAITE—"The Ladies of Gateshead Fell, and other Fair Supporters of the Public Rooms;" both of which toasts were drunk with three times three; and at this period of the evening the worthy Rector took his leave, and was loudly cheered as he retired from the hall.

Mr. KELL gave "The Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle." Mr. HARLE replied.

Song by Mr. KELL, "Jimmy Johnson's Wherry."

Mr. JOHN BARKUS proposed "The Coal Trade." (Cheers.)

Song by Mr. HANN, "Billy Oliver." (The admirable manner in which this humorous local song was given called forth loud and general encomiums. It was, indeed, an inimitable performance.)

Mr. J. R. WILSON, in proposing "Success to Mr. Davison and his School," stated, that the High Fell, as Mr. Atkinson had stated, exhibited, certainly, a lamentable lack of education, but on the Low Fell, although there was still great need of improvement, the same deficiency did not present itself. Of 207 families that had been visited, consisting of about 800 persons, 600 could read the Scriptures, and nearly 600 copies of the Bible were in their possession. 50 additional copies, also, had been subscribed for. He did not make this statement to discourage the efforts of the friends of education in the Low Fell:—far from it. But he would be glad if every other locality in the kingdom was in an equally favourable condition. The worthy Chairman had very properly contrasted the present with the past condition of the Fell. There had, indeed, been a great improvement in the manners of the people. As an illustration of the former condition of the borough, he might relate to the company an historical anecdote:—When the Duke of Cumberland was marching against the rebels, there was great excitement in these parts, and, among other incidents, a mob got over the garden-wall of a Catholic priest in Gateshead. The priest told his gardener to set the dog upon them—which irritated them so exceedingly, that they set fire to his house. (Not to the chapel, but to the house which stood behind the chapel—it was an error to suppose, as many did, that it was the chapel which was destroyed on this occasion—it was at the dissolution of the monasteries that the chapel fell into decay.) The Duke of Cumberland, on coming near Gateshead, saw the flames, and was apprehensive that the inhabitants were disaffected, and had set the town on fire; and on reaching Newcastle, he made inquiries of the Mayor as to the sentiments of the people. Now the Mayors of those days were not so polite and accomplished as the Mayors of Newcastle and Gateshead at the present time (applause and laughter,) and the Chief Magistrate of Newcastle bluntly replied to the Duke—"O, your Highness, we're a' canny, loyal cheps in Newcassel, but we're sair let doon by thae Gyetsiders!" (Roars of laughter.) Such was the character of the good folks of Gateshead in that age. An improvement had since taken place, and the people of Newcastle, he believed, did not now feel themselves to be "let down" by their neighbours the Gatesiders. (Applause.)

Mr. WRIGHT, "the Anacreon of the Fell," (as Mr. J. R. Wilson had described him in the course of his speech,) proposed—"The health of the Builder of the Rooms, Mr. Thomas Liddell." (Cheers.)

Mr. LIDDELL returned thanks.

Mr. WILLIAM BARKUS gave—"The Contributors;" Mr. BROCKETT—"Mr. and Mrs. Hetherington, of the Gateshead Arms;" Mr. G. SOWERBY—"The Vice Presidents;" Mr. KELL—"Mr. Nielson;" Mr. WRIGHT—"The Committee of the Rooms;" The CHAIRMAN—"Mr. Wright;" Mr. J. R. WILSON—"The newly-elected Councillors of the South Ward, Messrs. T. Sowerby and D. Robson;" Mr. HARLE—"The Town Clerk of Gateshead, Mr. Kell;" Mr. ADAMTHWAITE—"The *Gateshead Observer* and the Press;" Mr. T. SOWERBY—"Mr. Hudson and the other Strangers present;" Mr. HUDSON (who kindly volunteered to give lectures in the institution)—"The Working Classes;" The CHAIRMAN—"Mr. Ferry and his Musical Friends;" Mr. BROCKETT—"Mr. Joseph Robson and Agriculture;" and other toasts were given, the whole being interspersed with songs and glees from Messrs. Walker, Hann, Ferry, Hetherington, W. Barkus, &c.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

ELECTION OF A COUNCILLOR FOR THE SOUTH WARD.

I, MICHAEL HALL, Esquire, Alderman of the South Ward, in the said borough, do hereby give notice, that I have appointed Wednesday, the seventeenth day of November instant, at the National School-room, in Kell's-lane,

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on Gateshead Fell, in the said Ward, for the Election of a Councillor for the said Ward, in the room and place of Mr. George Sowerby, who has been elected an Alderman; and that the voting will commence at nine o'clock in the morning, and will finally close at four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, but the presiding officer has power to close the poll at any time before four o'clock, if one hour shall have elapsed during which no vote shall have been tendered for any candidate.

Each burgess is entitled to vote, by delivering to the presiding officer a voting paper, containing the Christian name and surname of the person for whom he votes, with his place of abode and description, such paper being previously signed with the name of the burgess voting, and with the name of the street lane, or other place in which the property for which he appears to be rated on the burgess roll, is situated.

Dated this eleventh day of November, 1841.

MICHAEL HALL, Alderman.

TO MR. J. REED WILSON.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, request that you will allow yourself to be nominated as a Councillor for the South Ward of the Borough of Gateshead, in the place of Mr. George Sowerby, elected Alderman for the said Ward.

Daniel Robson	William Dineley
Thomas Sowerby	M. R. Legge
Robert Davis	John Marshall
John Pattison	John Scaife
Thomas Liddell	Ralph Strathmore
Robert Hetherington	Thomas Cook
Joseph Miller	William Pattison
James Smith	Joshua Parkinson
W. H. Brockett	Robert Robson
John Young	Robert Hardy
George Barras	Benjamin Swalwell
Robert Clement	John Edward
William Bridon	Ralph Watt
John N. Pattison	J. G. Soppet
George Stevenson	J. Todd
William Parkinson	J. Wright
John Davidson	Samuel Kent
Thomas Baxter	John Simpson
Thomas Ferguson	John Kent

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with the above respectable requisition, I beg to offer myself as a Candidate to succeed to the office of Councillor of your Ward, rendered vacant by the appointment of Mr. George Sowerby to the office of Alderman.

Having no personal interest to serve, I shall cheerfully devote my leisure and my best efforts in promoting the interests of the Borough. With the assurances of support which I have already received from several quarters, I trust I shall become the successful Candidate; and should this be the case, I assure you nothing shall be wanting on my part to render me deserving of your choice.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and devoted Servant,
JOSEPH REED WILSON.

Boundary Cottage, Gateshead Low Fell,
9th November, 1841.

TO THE CLERK OF THE PEACE OF AND FOR THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

WE, the undersigned, being Justices of the Peace of and for the County of Northumberland, do, under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the ninth year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled, "An Act for the better Regulation of Divisions in the several Counties of England and Wales," state to you that in our opinion the following Townships or Places in the said County ought to be annexed for the purposes of Special Sessions, to the East Division of Coquetdale Ward, in the said County, being another Division of the said County than that of which at the time of making this our Statement the said Townships or Places form part, viz.:—

Townships or Places proposed to be annexed to the said East Division of Coquetdale Ward.		In what existing Division the same are situate or deemed to be.
Township of Brunton Township of Craster, Township of Dunston, Township of Embleton, Township of Falloden, Township of Newton by the Sea, Township of Rennington, Township of Rock, Township of Stamford,	In the Parish of Embleton.	South Division of Bambrough Ward.
Township of Shipley,	In the Parish of Eglingham.	

And we do hereby declare and set forth that the following Division, (to wit) the South Division of Bambrough Ward, will be altered by such Change of the said Townships or Places from the said South Division of Bambrough Ward to the said East Division of Coquetdale Ward. And we do hereby require you to lay this Statement before the Justices of the Peace to be assembled at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said County.

Witness our hands this nineteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

CHA. BOSANQUET,
J. P. for Northumberland.
J. H. H. ATKINSON,
J. P. for Northumberland.

I, ROBERT THORP, Clerk of the Peace for the County of Northumberland, do hereby give Notice, that the above Statement was laid before the Justices of the Peace, assembled at the Michaelmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace holden at Alnwick, in and for the said County, on Wednesday, the 20th day of October last, in pursuance of the directions of the said Act, and that the same will be taken into consideration, by the Court, at the next Epiphany Quarter Sessions, to be holden at the MOOT HALL, in and for the said County, *on Wednesday, the fifth day of January next.*

By order,
ROBERT THORP, Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of Peace's Office, 11th November, 1841.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Application is intended to be made to Parliament in the next Session, for leave to bring in a Bill for the more effectual Preservation and Increase of the Breed of Salmon, and for the better regulating, maintaining, and improving the Fisheries in the River Tyne, and the Rivers, Streams, and Waters running into the same, and on the Sea Coast or Shores adjacent to, or within, the Mouth or Entrance of the said River, in the several counties of Northumberland, Durham, and Cumberland, and the town and county of the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and in which said Bill Provisions are intended to be made for defraying the Expenses of establishing and maintaining the said Fisheries, by levying and collecting Tolls, Rates, or Duties, on the Owners and Occupiers of such Fisheries, or of the Lands and Grounds adjacent thereto, or Persons affected thereby, or by some other means to be provided by the said Bill.—Dated the 30th day of October, 1841.

CUTHBERT U. LAWS, Solicitor for the Bill.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at Mr. Frame's, the Queen's Head, near Gateshead Toll Gate, on Wednesday, November 24, 1841, at seven o'clock in the evening, all those FOUR FREEHOLD COTTAGES, now in the occupation of M. Parker, J. Dawson, J. Morland, and T. Davison, situated near Sheriff Hill, Gateshead Fell.

The above will be put up separately and sold clear of any dower or incumbrance whatever.

Any person wishing to purchase by Private Contract one or more of the above Houses, may obtain further information by applying to Mr. T. HEWETT, Dean-street, Newcastle.

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Gateshead, in special Council assembled, respectfully offer to your Majesty our hearty congratulations on the auspicious event by which your Majesty has been blessed with a son, and the empire over which your Majesty reigns with an heir-apparent to its Throne.

We pray that the Almighty, in his ever-merciful providence, may be pleased to bless and preserve your Majesty and your family—feeling as we most gratefully do, that your Majesty, not only as a wise and constitutional Sovereign, but as a virtuous and affectionate parent, affords the surest guarantee of the contentment and happiness of your people.

Given under the Corporate Common Seal of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Gateshead, this 16th day of November, 1841.

An address to Prince Albert, moved by Mr. Ald. POLLOCK, and seconded by Mr. Ald. BARRAS, was adopted with like cordiality, viz.:—

To His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Coburg and Saxe Gotha.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough of Gateshead, in special Council assembled.

We, her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough of Gateshead, tender our humble congratulations to your Royal Highness, on the birth of an heir apparent to the Throne of this empire.

With a deep conviction that the Royal Prince will, under the parental care of your Royal Highness and your illustrious Consort, imbibe principles which will honour him as a monarch and a man, we humbly pray that he may long be permitted to enjoy the smiles of a nation, and to repay with filial regard the paternal affection of Her Majesty and your Royal Highness.

Given under the Common Seal of the borough of Gateshead.

The MAYOR, in reply to a request that he would present the addresses in person, expressed his readiness to comply with the wishes of the Council, amidst warm applause.—The meeting then separated.—Nov. 20.

THE NEWCASTLE TOWN COUNCIL.

p JAMES HODGSON, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	p Harle, W. L.	p Grey, Andrew	*N. St. Andrew.*
Batson, T. R.	Robinson, R.	Parker, A.	p Philipson, R. P.
Bell, Thomas	p Stokoe, S.	*E. All Saints.*	p Keenlyside, T.
Bigge, C. J.	Nichol, John	p Lowrey, S.	p Dodds, Ralph
Brandling, J.	p Ingledew, H.	p Crawhall, J.	Blackwell, J.
Carr, John	*St. John.*	p Shield, Henry	Archbold, J.
p Donkin, A.	p Plues, Matthew	p Turner, Wm.	p Dunn, T.
Dunn, G. T.	p Charnley, E	p Ridley, John	*Westgate.*
p Fife, John	p Mitchell, W. A.	Rayne, R.	p Finlay, James
p Headlam, Dr.	p Burrell, I.	*S. St. Andrew.*	p Preston, J. H.
p Lamb, Joseph	p Story, Wm.	Sanderson, F.	p Hawthorn, R.
p Losh, James	p Radford, J.	p Jobling, M. L.	*Jesmond.*
p Potter, A. L.	*W. All Saints.*	p Taylor, F.	Plummer, R.
p Ridley J.	Silliek, J.	p Nichol, A. (J.P.)	p Richardson, W.
St. Nicholas' Ward.	p Carr, J. T.	p Nichol, A.	p Palmer, Geo.
p Straker, G.	p Proctor, W. B.	p Gray, A. G.	
	Johnson, J.	[Those marked p were present.]	

THE Council met specially on Monday last, to vote addresses of congratulation to the Queen and Prince Albert, on the birth of an heir to the throne of these realms.

The MAYOR having briefly opened the business of the meeting,

Mr. Ald. LAMB rose and said, that they had been called together by an auspicious and pleasing event, with which they were all well acquainted. (Applause.) There were none more devoted to the Queen, or to the maintenance of the laws and liberties of the country, than the citizens of Newcastle (applause); and there was not in this country a body of men that would congratulate her Majesty more warmly and sincerely than the Newcastle Council. (Applause.) For himself, he had great pleasure in moving the following address:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors, of the Borough of Newcastle upon Tyne

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough of Newcastle upon Tyne, humbly approach your Majesty with the expression of our most sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the birth of a Prince, heir-apparent to the throne of these realms.

We hail this auspicious event with feelings of thankfulness and gratitude to the Dispenser of all good, and we rejoice in the increased prospect it affords of the continuance of the Crown of the United Kingdom in the direct line of your Majesty's illustrious house. Relying on the watchful care with which the infancy of the Prince will be guarded and his character formed by your Majesty and your illustrious Consort, and trusting to the happy influence which the virtues and example of his illustrious parents cannot fail to produce on his youthful mind, we entertain the brightest hopes for the future happiness of our country.

We eagerly embrace this opportunity to renew the assurance of our devotion and attachment to your Majesty; and we fervently pray that your Majesty may continue to enjoy every happiness, and may long live to reign in the hearts and affections of your people; and that the youthful Prince may grow up to be a blessing to your Majesty and his country—the guardian of the rights and the protector of the liberties of his future subjects.

Mr. CRAWHALL rose to second the motion.—The event was one which came home to every heart; and it was satisfactory to feel that this was an occasion on which men of all parties could cordially unite. (Applause.) A Prince had been born who would one day, in all probability, occupy the throne of these realms; though he hoped that his accession was far distant, or, at all events, that he would arrive at full maturity before he was called upon to reign over the country. (Applause.) He was glad that the address just read was divested of an obnoxious rider which had been attached to former addresses. (Cries of "Hear, hear," "Order, order.") He would appeal to the Mayor whether or not he was in order?

The MAYOR replied that it was hardly a question of order—it was more a question of taste.

Mr. CRAWHALL thought so too—and it was certainly in bad taste to introduce disputable matter on occasions upon which all parties were agreed; and he could not avoid congratulating the Council on the avoidance of this error in the present address. He had much pleasure in seconding Mr. Ald. Lamb's motion.—Carried by acclamation.

Mr. Ald. RIDLEY moved an address to Prince Albert, which was seconded by Mr. A. NICHOL (J.P.), and carried in like manner. The following is a copy:—

To His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha.

The humble address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Newcastle upon Tyne.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough of Newcastle upon Tyne, respectfully offer to your Royal Highness our heartfelt congratulations on the birth of a Prince, heir-apparent to the throne of these realms.

We rejoice in this auspicious event as affording the country increased assurance of the continuance of the Crown of the United Kingdom in the direct line of succession of your Royal Consort's illustrious house, being well assured that under the care of your Royal Highness and your Royal Consort, the youthful Prince will be brought up in the exercise of every virtue, and will be fitted by the bright example set before him by his illustrious parents for the high destiny which awaits him.

We pray that your Royal Highness and your Royal Consort may continue to enjoy every happiness, and that every addition to your offspring may bring with it increased domestic felicity.

Mr. Ald. LAMB observed, that the only question which now remained was the mode of presentation, and he would propose that the Mayor be requested to present the addresses in person. (Applause.)

Mr. A. G. GRAY had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

The MAYOR was not altogether unprepared for this request, because he had certainly anticipated the possibility of its being made; but he would have preferred that the addresses had been sent to her Majesty and the Prince through other hands. If, however, it was the wish of the Council that he should present them, he would cheerfully undertake the duty. (Applause.) Indeed, if he were to decline the honour, it might be thought that he was deterred by the sentence of disqualification pronounced upon him at a former meeting. (Laughter.) He would only say, that, in presenting the addresses, he would endeavour to acquit himself as courteously as possible. (Applause and laughter.)

The addresses were signed and sealed, and the Council separated.—Nov. 20.

GATESHEAD SOUP KITCHEN.

AT a Meeting of the Subscribers to the Fund for providing suitable premises to be fitted up for the purpose of a SOUP KITCHEN, holden in the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 17th of November, 1841, (the RECTOR in the Chair,)

It was Resolved,—

That, notwithstanding the Subscriptions fall short of the sum requisite for the purpose, the season is so pressing, that steps be immediately taken for providing premises in which to erect a Steam Apparatus for supplying the poor with Soup during this inclement season. And that a Committee, consisting of the Mayor, the Rector, and Messrs. James Pollock, W. H. Brockett, John Barras, William Hymers, William Brown, William Kell, and T. H. Apedaile; together with the Members of the Committee of the old Soup Kitchen, be appointed to carry the object of the meeting into immediate effect.

That William Hymers, Esq., be appointed Treasurer.

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That the subscription already entered into be continued; and that subscription lists remain at the offices of W. Hymers, Esq., the Town Clerk, and the *Gateshead Observer*; and at the shops of Messrs. Greene, Mr. Bell, and Mr. Matchitt, Grocers, Gateshead.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FITTING-UP FUND.

The late Mayor (W. Hymers, Esq)	£2	2	0	David Colling	1	1	0
The Rector	2	2	0	James Hymers	1	1	0
John Abbot	2	2	0	William Kell	1	1	0
Charles Bulmer	2	2	0	John Greene	1	1	0
J. Pollock	1	1	0	George Bell	1	1	0
W. H. Brockett	1	1	0	William Brown	1	1	0
Jo n Barras	1	1	0	Joseph Hymers	1	1	0
Thmas Swinburne	1	1	0	T. H. Apedaile	1	1	0
Wm. Cayley, Esq.	1	1	0	William Douglas	0	5	0
H. L. Pattinson, Esq.	1	1	0	The Rev. T. Speck	0	10	0
Benjamin Matchitt	1	1	0	William Angus	0	10	0
W. Walker	1	1	0	R. C. Young & Sons	0	10	6
J. G. Abbot	1	1	0	John Lister, jun.	0	10	6
The Mayor (Geo. Sowerby, Esq.)	2	2	0	R. E. Bewick	0	10	0
Joseph Garnett	1	1	0	Henry Harrison	0	10	0
G. J. Kenmir	1	1	0	Miss Elder	0	5	0
Henry Smith	1	1	0	James Clephan	0	5	0
John Colman	1	1	0	Mrs. Hunter, West-street	0	5	0

A meeting of subscribers to the erection of new apparatus for the Gateshead soup-kitchen, was held in the town-hall, on Wednesday last, (the Rector in the chair,) when it was resolved to proceed immediately with the work. The subscription-list, we regret to say, is a miserably short one; but we do hope the wealthy and the charitable of the borough will make it much longer before many days are over; for, depend upon it, the demand for soup will be great and urgent ere long; and those who enjoy food and fuel, raiment and shelter, in reasonable abundance, during the present inclement weather, should not forget the necessities of their poorer neighbours.—Nov. 20.

Mr. J. R. Wilson was on Wednesday unanimously elected Councillor of the South Ward of Gateshead, in the place of Mr. G. Sowerby, who had previously been elected Alderman.

Whickham Church, near Gateshead, was discovered to be on fire, in the afternoon of Sunday last, shortly before the time of divine service. A flue, leading from the stove, and running under-ground, had become over-heated, and set fire to a pew above. A lad, who was in the churchyard, observed the smoke, and gave an alarm; when the Rev. Robert Chatto, the respected curate of the parish, entered the vestry at the risk of suffocation, and rescued the official records and other books. He then attempted to enter the main-door of the edifice, but could not obtain admission. A ladder was therefore procured, and, breaking one of the north windows, he effected an entrance at the side of the church, and was followed by several of his parishioners. Water was brought in every imaginable kind of vessel, and thrown upon the flames, which were now raging with great fury; and through the vigorous and persevering exertions of Mr. Chatto and the other inhabitants, the fire was at length subdued, but not until the north side of the church, including about 80 pews, was destroyed. That the whole building did not fall a prey to the flames, is to be ascribed to the dauntless efforts of the worthy curate, made at the imminent peril of his life. His bravery, however, was well seconded by the inhabitants, to whom great praise is also due. Fire-engines were brought to assist their exertions for the safety of the venerable church, but they were then unnecessary.—"The church of Whickham," says Surtees, "retains vestiges of considerable antiquity, amidst much of modern repair and alteration. The tower at the west end of the nave is square, with flying buttresses: the north and south aisles are uniform, each separated from the nave by three short round piliars, with square capitals, supporting circular arches, without ornament or moulding. The roof of the chancel is covered with plain ceiling; and the body of the church is crowded with galleries, which fill the west end of the nave, and part of the aisles. The chief entrance is through a south porch: there is a small north door, under a pointed arch. The font is an old stone basin of Stanhope marble. The lights are nearly all modern. A west window, under a pointed arch, opens beneath the tower. The lights in the south aisle are pointed: in the north aisle are two modern pointed windows, under old square labels. Some grotesque heads may be traced on the old stone spouts." The church is dedicated to St. Mary. The first Rector on record is Hugo, in 1287. The present Rector is the Rev. H. Douglas, Prebendary of Durham. The munificent donor of the public library attached to St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle, Dr. Thomlinson, was Rector of Whickham from 1712 to 1740. The registers commence in 1575.—Nov. 20.

Relics of Ryton and Whickham.—A little pamphlet, published in 1640, being "Answers to the Complaints and Grievances given in by the Bishop of Durham, Northumberland, and some of Newcastle, said to be committed by our [the Scotch] Army," contains the following curious passage, being the sixteenth answer to the charges:—"The parson[s] of Rye [Ryton] and Wickham [Whickham] first rifled their own houses, and then fled, leaving nothing but a few play-bookes and pamphlets, and one old cloake, with an old woman, being the onely living Christian in the towne—the rest being fled." The parson of Ryton, here referred to, is Rector William James, who was inducted in 1617, and died in 1659; and the Rector of Whickham, at the same period, was Mr. Thomas Wood, inducted in 1635, and made Bishop of Lichfield in 1671. There were parsons "intruded" by the Parliament party into both livings—the "intruder" to Whickham being Nicholas Stote, and the Ryton "intruder" John Weld, brother to the "intruder" at the same period into the Rectory of Gateshead.—In the registers of Whickham are more than one allusion to the Scotch army—a part of which, after their victory at Newburn, was quartered in the village.—Had Mr. Chatto, elsewhere honourably noticed in our paper, been curate in Whickham at the time of the Scotch "visitation," we question whether *he* would have "fled" from the foe. Judging from his conduct on Sunday last, we think that he would more likely have led on the inhabitants to battle.

The Windmill Hills, Gateshead.—Matthew Ruddock was convicted, on Wednesday last, by the county magistrates, in Gateshead, of wilfully passing out of the Gateshead and Hexham turnpike-road, and crossing the Windmill-hills, on horseback, with intent to evade the payment of toll at the borough toll-bar: and a fine of 9s. was inflicted. Joshua Watson was fined £5 for the same offence, the full penalty being imposed in this case, the defendant having stated his intention to appeal—a privilege of which he would have been deprived, had a less fine than 40s. been inflicted. Yesterday, before the borough magistrates, several persons were charged, at the instance of the town-council, with trespassing on the footpath on the Windmill-hills. The following were fined 8s. each:—For wilfully driving a cart on the footpath, William Brown, Robert Hudson, Jeffrey Robson, Peter Carrick, and William Jeffrey; and for riding on the path, George Waugh, James Little, William Douglass, and Ralph Coulthard.—William Black, for running a wheelbarrow on the path in Union-lane, was fined in a like sum.—Nov. 20.

Fire at Friar's Goose Colliery.—On Sunday morning, about 5 o'clock, a fire was discovered at Friar's Goose Colliery, South Shore, Gateshead, near to Mr. Clapham's alkali-works. At the time the alarm was given, the wind was blowing fresh from the north-east; and, in consequence, the flames burst forth with great fury, and in a little time the extensive range of coal-sheds, screens, and pully-frames, were all in one blaze. Before 7 o'clock, the whole were consumed, besides a number of waggons, &c., the wheels and spokes of which were "run" with the intensity of the heat. The several engines from Newcastle, and one from Messrs. Hawks's, and another from Felling colliery, were speedily on the spot; and, fortunately, by their united exertions, the fire was confined to where it originated. The fire was supposed to be caused by one of the sinkers (many of whom had been at work until three o'clock the same morning,) leaving a lamp burning in one of the sheds, the flames of which, by the violence of the wind, having communicated with the wood partition, had caused the accident. The loss is estimated at £800, but we understand the property is insured; and the works can be so far repaired in the course of a few days as to enable the men to renew their labour.—Nov. 20.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT application is intended to be made to Parliament, in the next Session, for an Act to alter, amend, and enlarge the powers and provisions of four several Acts; the first passed in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the 4th, intituled "An Act for making a Railway from near the River Tyne, to or near the River Tees, to be called 'The Great North of England Railway,' in the county of Durham;" the second of such Acts passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act to enable the Great North of England Railway Company to extend the line of their Railway, and to make two Branches therefrom, and for other purposes relating thereto;" the third of such Acts passed in the second year of the reign of Her said Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act for amending and enlarging the provisions of the several Acts relating to the Great North of England Railway Company, and for other purposes relating thereto;" and the fourth of such Acts passed in the fourth and fifth years of the reign of Her said Majesty Queen Victoria, intitled "An Act for amending and enlarging the provisions of the several Acts relating to the Great North of England Railway Company, and for other purposes relating thereto;" and that power will be sought, by such intended Act, to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company to sell and dispose of, to another Railway Company, intended to be incorporated, or to abandon and relinquish wholly, or to abandon and relinquish, and, in lieu thereof, to construct other works upon, and to make deviations from, and alterations and diversions in, a certain portion of the line, or intended line, of the said Great North of England Railway, commencing at the south end of a certain occupation road leading to land belonging to John Allan, of Blackwell, in the said county of Durham, Esquire, and situate in the township and parish of Darlington, in the said county of Durham, and terminating at or in a certain close or field near to Shincliffe West House, in the township of Shincliffe, in the parish of Saint Oswald, in the said county of Durham, and now or late in the occupation of John Mellanby, or any part or parts thereof, and the powers, authorities, and rights, of the said Great North of England Railway Company relating thereto, or to any part or parts thereof; and also to enable the said other Company, so intended to be incorporated, to purchase from the said Great North of England Railway Company the said portion of the said line, or intended line, of the said Great North of England Railway, or any part or parts thereof, and the said powers, authorities, and rights, of the said Great North of England Railway Company relating thereto, or to any part or parts thereof, and to construct other works upon, and to make deviations from, and diversions and alterations in the said portion of the same line, or intended line, or any part or parts thereof; which said portion of the said line, or intended line, of the said Great North of England Railway, passes, or was intended to pass, from, through, or into, the several parishes of Saint Oswald, Croxdale, Kelloe, Bishop Middleham, Sedgefield, Bishopton, Merrington, Aycliffe, Great Stainton, Heighington, Haughton-le-Skerne, and Darlington, or some of them, or some part or parts thereof, all in the county of Durham; and also through, to, from, and out of, the several townships, hamlets, chapelries, constabularies, and extra-parochial or other places following, all in the said county of Durham, (that is to say,) Shincliffe, Cassop, Butterby, Sunderland Bridge, Croxdale, Coxhoe, Church Kelloe, Quarrington, Hett, Butcher Race, Ferryhill, Cornforth, Thinford, Garmondsway, otherwise Garmondsway Moor, (which last mentioned place is extra-parochial), Bishop Middleham, Mainsforth, Thrislington, Tursdale, Kirk Merrington, Chilton, Great Chilton, Little Chilton, Bradbury, Bradbury with the Isle, Mordon, Mordon Carrs, Woodham, Nunstainton, Copelaw, Preston-le-Skerne, Grindon, and How Hills, Ricknall, Ricknall Grange, Heighington, Travellers' Rest, Great Stainton, Little Stainton, Elstob, Great Aycliffe, Heworth, Brafferton, Newtown, otherwise Newtown Ketton, Ketton, Coatham Mundeville, Whessoe, Beaumont Hill, Harrogate, Barmpton, Skerningham, otherwise Skerningham, Haughton, Cockerton, Darlington, Darlington Borough, and Darlington Bondgate, otherwise Bondgate in Darlington, or some of them, or some part or parts of them, all in the said county of Durham. And it is also intended, by the Act so to be applied for, to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company to abandon and relinquish a certain portion of the said line, or intended line of the Great North of England Railway, commencing in or at the said close or field near to Shincliffe West House aforesaid, and now or late in the occupation of the said John Mellanby, and terminating at or upon the line of the Blaydon and Hebburn Railway, in a field or haugh called the Hassocks, situate within the precincts of the borough of Gateshead, in the township and parish of Gateshead, in the county of Durham, belonging to Adam Askew, of Redheugh, in the said parish of Gateshead, Esquire, now or lately occupied by Robert Clarke, and lying near to the west end of the Quay commonly called Askew's Quay, otherwise Redheugh Quay, in the said township and parish of Gateshead, adjoining the river Tyne; and also to abandon and relinquish a certain branch Railway, called or intended to be called "The City of Durham Branch," and which was intended to commence at, in, or upon a certain close numbered 9 in the plan of the said Great North of England Railway, deposited in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for the said county of Durham, belonging to the Most Noble the Marquis of Londonderry (part of a farm called "Old Durham"), situate in the parish of St. Oswald, in or near the city of Durham, and in the said county of Durham, and now or late occupied by William Grace, as tenant thereof, and to terminate in a certain garden belonging to the said Marquis of Londonderry, and now or lately occupied by Robert Manners, situate on the south side of a street in the city of Durham, called Gilligate, near the Causeway foot in the same street, and in the township and parish of St. Giles, otherwise Gilesgate, otherwise Gilligate, in the said county of Durham, and the powers, authorities, provisions, directions, penalties, forfeitures, payments, exemptions, remedies, regulations, clauses, matters, and things, contained in the several above-mentioned Acts of Parliament, or any of them relating thereto respectively; which said last-mentioned portion of the said line, or intended line, of the said Great North of England Railway, passes, or was intended to pass, from, through, or into, the several parishes of Croxdale, Pittington, St. Giles, St. Oswald, Chester le-Street, Whickham, Gateshead Fell, and Gateshead, or some of them, or some part or parts of them, all in the said county of Durham, and also through, to, from, and out of, the several townships, hamlets, chapelries, constableries, and extra-parochial or other places following, all in the said county of Durham, viz., Shincliffe, Elvet Borough, Elvet Barony, Old Durham, Whitwell, Pittington, otherwise Pittington Hallgarth, Sherburn House, Sherburn, Gilligate, otherwise St. Giles, Gilligate Moor, Keepier, Framwellgate, Durham Moor Houses, Crossgate, otherwise St. Margaret in Crossgate, Ouston, Pokerley, Urpeth, Plawsworth, Pelaw, Pictree, Pelton, Lambton, Waldridge, Harraton, Whitehill, Chester-le-Street, Birtley, Ravensworth, Kimblesworth, Kibblesworth, Lamesley, Gateshead Fell, Gateshead, and the town and borough of Gateshead, or some of them, or some part or parts of them, all in the county of Durham; and which said City of Durham Branch passes, or was intended to pass, into, from, and out of, the said townships and parishes of St. Oswald and St. Giles, otherwise Gilligate, otherwise Gilesgate. And it is further intended, by the Act so to be applied for, to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company, in conjunction with the York and North Midland Railway Company, the North Midland Railway Company, the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company, the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company, the Durham Junction Railway Company, the Brandling Junction Railway Company, the Midland Counties Railway Company, and the Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway Company, or any of them, or any other Company or Companies, to purchase, or rent, the line of Railway and Branch Railway intended or proposed to be made by the said Company, so intended to be incorporated as aforesaid, or any part thereof, and to use and work the same, or otherwise to guarantee, to the said last-mentioned Company, such interest on the outlay requisite for the formation of such Railway and Branch thereof, or any part or parts thereof respectively, as may be agreed on between them, or any of them, and the said Company so intended to be incorporated as aforesaid; and to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company, and all or any of the other Companies hereinbefore mentioned or referred to, to enter into such mutual arrangements as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes and objects of the Act to be applied for by the said Company, so to be incorporated, and for promoting the beneficial use and working

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of the undertaking thereby to be authorized. And it is also intended, by the said Act so to be applied for, to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company to sell to any person or persons, Corporation or Corporations, whomsoever, and to enable any person or persons, Corporation or Corporations, whomsoever, to purchase the whole, or any part or parts, of any messuages, dwelling-houses, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, which the said Great North of England Railway Company have purchased, or agreed to purchase, situate in the said County of Durham, save and except all such, and so many, and such part or parts of the said messuages, dwelling-houses, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, as are situate in the said Parish of Darlington, and in the Parish of Hurworth, in the said County of Durham, or in either of such Parishes. And it is also intended, by the Act so to be applied for, to empower the said Great North of England Railway Company to purchase and take (for the purpose of carrying the Highway leading from the Town of Darlington aforesaid to Yarm, in the County of York, and also to Neasham, Hurworth, Dinsdale, and Sockburn, in the said County of Durham, under the said Great North of England Railway,) certain messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate in the Borough of Darlington, in the Township of Darlington, and in the Township of Darlington Bondgate, otherwise Bondgate in Darlington, all in the Parish of Darlington, and in the said County of Durham, and to assess and ascertain the value and compensation to be paid by the said Great North of England Railway Company, for the same messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or any of them, or any part or parts thereof respectively, by a Jury, in manner directed by the said first above-mentioned Act, in case the said Great North of England Railway Company, and the owner or owners, Lessee or Lessees, or occupier or occupiers, of the same messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, shall not agree about the same. And it is also intended, by the said Act so to be applied for, to enable the said Great North of England Railway Company to make compensation to any person or persons, for injuries, damages, deterioration, or detriment, to be occasioned to such person or persons, or to their messuages, dwelling-houses, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, by the execution of all or any of the powers or authorities given or conferred upon the said Great North of England Railway Company, by the several above-mentioned Acts, or any of them, by reason or in consequence of the said Great North of England Railway Company making and erecting the two Bridges, in the third of the above-mentioned Acts particularly mentioned and specified, and the approaches thereto respectively, or any of them, and for which injuries, damages, deterioration, or detriment, the said Company will not be liable to make compensation under the above-mentioned Acts, or any of them. And it is further intended, by the said Act so to be applied for, to obtain all such other powers and authorities as may be necessary for enabling the said Great North of England Railway Company to carry out the purposes and objects hereinbefore mentioned. AND NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that plans and sections, describing the hereinbefore mentioned messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, so proposed to be purchased and taken by the said Great North of England Railway Company, and the said other works so proposed to be constructed, and the said deviations, alterations, and diversions, so proposed to be made as aforesaid, and the levels thereof respectively, together with books of reference, showing the names of the owners, or reputed owners, lessees, or reputed lessees, and occupiers of the same hereditaments respectively, will be deposited for public inspection, on or before the thirtieth day of November, in the present year, with the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Durham, at his Office in the City of Durham, and also with the Clerk of the parish of Darlington aforesaid, at his residence in the same parish. Dated this eleventh day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

MEWBURN & HUTCHINSON, and JOHN S. PEACOCK, } Solicitors to the Great North of England Railway Company.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

WE, the undersigned, Alderman and Assessors of the South Ward of the Borough of Gateshead, having examined the voting papers delivered at the Election of a Councillor, holden for the said Ward, on this 17th day of November instant, to supply the Vacancy occasioned in the office of Councillor for the said Ward, by the Election of Councillor George Sowerby to the office of Alderman, do hereby declare that Joseph Reed Wilson, of Boundary Cottage, Gentleman, has been duly elected a Councillor, by the burgesses of the said Ward, in the room and place of the said George Sowerby. As witness our hands this seventeeth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty one.

MICHAEL HALL,
Alderman, and Presiding Officer.
JOHN EDWARD
THOMAS PATTERSON } Assessors.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SOUTH WARD OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to return you my most sincere thanks for the honour you have conferred on me, by electing me one of your Representatives in the Council of this Borough; and assure you that I shall endeavour to discharge the responsible duties of that office faithfully and effectually.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and devoted servant,
JOSEPH REED WILSON.

Boundary Cottage, Gateshead Low Fell,
November 19, 1840.

IMPROVEMENTS IN STEAM-BOILERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Be so obliging as to give this letter insertion in your paper. Under the above heading, in a contemporary journal, it is stated that at a meeting of the Liverpool Polytechnic Society, C. W. Williams, Esq., described an improvement of his own invention, in the manufacture of boilers for steam-engines. He passed through the bottom of the boiler iron pins of about half an inch in diameter, one end projecting into the burning mass in the furnace, and the other into the water in the boiler. Mr. Williams's statement was confirmed by Mr. Durant, one of the engineers of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, who stated that he had tried the pins, or spikes, on the lecturer's principle, in the boiler of a locomotive engine, with great success: he had only 105 pins driven into the boiler, and the steam, which could not before be kept up, was now abundant.

Sir, I beg leave to inform you, that I took out a patent for the very same invention, which was sealed on the 19th of November, 1833, under the title of "certain improvements in the construction of furnaces for generating heat, and also in the construction of apparatus, or vessels, for applying heat to various useful purposes."

I sometimes use tubes, which I fix to the bottom of the boiler, and pass them up through the water; and sometimes I use metal plates—also iron rods—which I pass up through the bottom and the water. The end which projects into the furnace, I make a butt-end, with a shoulder larger than the perforation that is made in the bottom; and I put a nut down the rod, in the inside of the boiler. When it is screwed down, it brings the parts together, which makes the boiler perfectly tight.

By this valuable improvement, steam can be obtained at less expense than in any other way that has heretofore been tried.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
JOHN C. DOUGLAS.

7, Blenheim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Nov. 17, 1841.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p GEORGE SOWERBY, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
		Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	p Hymers, Jas.	Robson, D.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	Hymers, Wm.	Smith, James
Hall, Michael	p Dunn, Charles	p Kenmir, Wm.	p Sowerby, T.
p Pollock, James	Fairbairn, J.	p Potts, John	p Swan, Walker
p Wilson, Thos.	p Forster, S.	p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph

[Those marked p were present.]

THE Council met on Tuesday—when an address to the Queen, moved by Mr. Ald. BROCKETT, and seconded by Mr. CUMMINS, was carried by acclamation. It was as follows:—

To the Queen's most excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough of

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Matthias William Dunn, Esq., of Hedgefield, near Stella, on the Tyne, was married November 24th, at the chapel of Lartington Hall, near Barnard Castle, the seat of H. T. M. Witham, Esq., to Emma, eldest unmarried daughter of that amiable and deservedly popular gentleman. The happy pair set off after the marriage for Penrith, on their way to Edinburgh. Mr. Witham, during the present week, has been entertaining a distinguished body of friends at his residence.

THE NEWCASTLE TOWN COUNCIL.

p JAMES HODGSON, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	p Harle, W. L.	p Grey, Andrew	*N. St. Andrew.*
p Batson, T. R.	p Robinson, R.	Parker, A.	p Philipson, R. P.
p Bell, Thomas	p Stokoe, S.	*E. All Saints.*	p Keenlyside, T.
p Bigge, C. J.	p Nichol, John	p Lowrey, S.	p Dodds, Ralph
p Brandling, J.	p Ingledew, H.	p Crawhall, J.	p Blackwell, J.
Carr, John	*St. John.*	Shield, Henry	p Archbold, J.
p Donkin, A.	p Plues, Matthew	p Turner, Wm.	p Dunn, T.
p Dunn, G. T.	p Charnley, E	p Ridley, John	*Westgate.*
p Fife, John	p Mitchell, W. A.	p Rayne, R.	p Finlay, James
p Headlam, Dr.	p Burrell, I.	*S. St. Andrew.*	p Preston, J. H.
p Lamb, Joseph	p Story, Wm.	Sanderson, F.	p Hawthorn, R.
p Losh, James	p Radford, J.	p Jobling, M. L.	*Jesmond.*
p Potter, A. L.	*W. All Saints.*	p Taylor, F.	Plummer, R.
p Ridley J.	p Sillick, J.	p Nichol, A. (J.P.)	p Richardson, W.
St. Nicholas'	p Carr, J. T.	Nichol, A.	p Palmer, Geo.
Ward.	p Proctor, W. B.	p Gray, A. G.	
p Straker, G.	p Johnson, J.	[Those marked p were present.]	

THE Council met on Wednesday, Nov. 24, by adjournment, and proceeded, first, to supply a vacancy in Jesus' Hospital, created by the death of Deborah Allen. There were *twenty-two* candidates, and the election fell upon Mary Ann Leighton, an infirm woman, aged 50.

The Council then disposed of four of Sir Thomas White's £25 loans. There were seven applicants, of whom the following were successful:—Charles Miller, High Bridge, plane-maker; William Martin, Westgate, tanner; Robert Calbreath, Liverpool-street, bricklayer; and William Newton, cooper.

The River Committee presented a "Report on the General State of the Works on the River, with an Estimate for 1842,' as follows:—

The River Committee having reason to believe that a very erroneous opinion prevails in the Council as to the amount of money expended on the river improvements, have deemed it their duty to prepare, from the Treasurer's printed accounts, which are sent annually to every Councillor, a statement of the whole of the money which has been placed by the Council under their management, from the period of their first appointment, in January, 1836, to the 31st of August, 1841, with an account showing in what manner that money has been expended.

The mode adopted by the Council of voting the money to be appropriated to river works, under the head of "port and harbour charges," having occasioned considerable misconception, the Committee have annexed an analysis of the last year's expenditure under that head; by which it appears that out of the large sum of £7,209 8s. 10d. placed to that account, the sum of £2,788 1s. 0d. only was available to the Committee for river improvements, being upwards of £1,200 less than the sum which was intended by the Council to be so appropriated.

The total amount expended from the 1st September, 1840, to the 31st August, 1841, was				£7,209	8	10
Sums expended over which the River Committee have no control.						
Various salaries	£2,272	3	6			
Setting back and rebuilding quays	684	5	0			
Expenses for Ascension-day, water bailiffs' disbursements, rent of quay-and-harbour-master's office, keelmen for taking dead bodies and tree roots out of the river, cleaning sewers, printing, stationery, &c. &c.	509	11	10			
	£3,466	0	4			
Expenditure by the harbour-master, including working the mud-barge, repairs to craft, &c.	551	17	3			
				4,017	17	7
				£3,191	11	3
Expenditure by the River Committee.						
Stock in hand:—Moorings laid down in various parts of the river				403	10	3
Balance left at the disposal of the Committee for the improvement of the river				£2,788	1	0

From the general statement above referred to, it appears that the whole sum which has been placed at the disposal of the Committee since their first appointment has been £18,085 3s.; from which must be deducted the sum of £1,362 5s. 2d. which has been received by the Corporation for work done by the Committee for other parties within the period referred to; leaving a balance of £16,722 17s. 10d. Out of this sum there has been expended in the purchase of a dredging-machine, two hopper-barges, and other craft, in the erection of a ballast-machine at Walker, and in laying down moorings, all of which are articles of permanent stock, the sum of £6,191 5s. 2d.; which, deducted from the balance of £16,722 17s. 10d., leaves £10,531 12s. 8d. as the total sum applicable to improvements on the river during the above period.

The total amount expended from the 1st January, 1836, to the 31st August, 1841, has been				£57,156	4	5½
Sums expended over which the River Committee have no control.						
Various salaries	£12,977	2	5			
For conveying ballast in 1836, 1837, and 1838	17,573	15	3			
Donation towards new-fronting the custom-house, Newcastle	1,000	0	0			
Setting back and rebuilding quays	684	5	0			
Repairing old quays at Newcastle, and building a shed upon the quay	780	10	10			
Expenses for Ascension-day, water-bailiffs' disbursements, rent of quay-and-harbour-master's office, keelmen for taking dead bodies and tree roots out of the river, cleansing sewers, stationery, printing, &c. &c.	2,606	8	3½			
	£35,622	1	9½			
Expenditure by the harbour-master, including working the mud-barge, repairs to craft, &c. &c.	3,448	19	8			
				39,071	1	5½
				£18,085	3	0
Money received for work done:—For the use of the dredging-machine and craft in 1838, 1839, 1840, and 1841	£766	1	2			
For stone, &c., from Bill-point rock, sold in 1840 and 1841	596	4	0			
				1,362	5	2
				£16,722	17	10
Expenditure by the River Committee.						
Stock in hand as follows:—The present dredging-machine and craft	£5,063	17	0			
Moorings laid down in various parts of the river	812	9	0			
Ballast-engine at Walker	314	19	2			
				6,191	5	2
Balance left at the disposal of the Committee for the improvement of the river				£10,531	12	8
The above sum of £10,531 12s. 8d. has been applied as follows:—						
For working the dredging-machine and craft in various parts of the river, including all repairs to craft, &c.	£4,518	9	1			
Deduct money received for the use of the dredging machine, &c.	766	1	2			
				£3,752	7	11
River-works at Walker, including the building of Mr. C. Hunter's quay, &c.	£2,024	7	1			
Material from Bill-point to form the groins and river-front	2,620	3	11			
				4,644	11	0
River-works at Willington, small expenses, labour, &c.	£77	9	7			
Material from Bill-point to form the groin and river-front, &c.	363	3	3			
				440	12	10
Bill-point rock supplied to various parties	£367	6	1			
Ditto ditto deposited at the North Shore for the embankment	647	2	4			
Earth deposited at Kenton-gears, &c.	77	4	10			
Balance paid to contractors on account for removing Bill-point, including removal of rock before Mr. Anderson's appointment, &c.	297	7	4			
	£1,389	0	7			
Deduct money received for rock, &c., sold	596	4	0			
				792	16	7
Contingencies, including assistant in making plans, expenses in taking soundings, &c. &c.				310	18	0
Boring for the foundation of the New Quay	£42	14	1			
Clerk of the works at the commencement	80	19	6			
				123	13	7
Weighing craft, &c.				34	14	1
Engineers, for plans, reports, &c., at various times				431	18	8
				£10,531	12	8

For this expenditure, the following important objects have been attained:—

1. The embankment at Walker is in such a state of forwardness, that, with very little additional expenditure, it will render available to the Corporation above seven acres of valuable building-ground, well adapted

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for the erection of manufactories, having upwards of 1,200 feet of river frontage.

2. More than 100 feet have been cut off from the projection at Bill-point rock—an operation which has obviously materially improved the navigation of the river.

3. Nearly 84,000 tons of ballast, &c., have been dredged from the various shoals in the river.

4. The important works at Willington have been in part executed.

5. By the formation of the Walker-groins, a most important advantage has already been obtained in the reduction of the cost of conveying ballast, from tenpence per ton, the average charge from 1836 to 1840, to ninepence-farthing per ton, the cost of conveyance last year, by which a saving of nearly £500 has already been effected, and there is every reason to believe that the amount will be progressively increased. In addition to this, a small part of the quay has been let for three years, for a timber-depot, at an annual rent of £60.

Independent of these advantages to the Corporation, a saving of £1,293 11s. 3d. has been obtained by the shipowners, being ninepence per ton on 34,495 tons of ballast, delivered at Walker-groins last year.

The Committee trust they have stated enough to satisfy the Council as to the proper and advantageous manner in which the sums entrusted to them have been expended, and they hope that the accompanying *estimate for next year*, which they have prepared on the lowest possible scale, consistently with the effective carrying on of the works, will be agreed to:—

Willington Groins and Ballast Depôt.						
A new ballast-engine, railways, waggons, tubs, &c.	£510	0	0			
Stone from Bill-point, or elsewhere, to complete to the proper height the present river-front, and extend the same westward, to form a depôt for the reception of ballast at the reduced charge of 1s. 6d., instead of 2s. 2d. per ton, to the shipowner	520	0	0			
Timber for a ballast-jetty 300 feet in length, including the iron-work and labour of making the same, and moorings for the convenience of vessels delivering their ballast at this place	1,240	0	0			
				2,270	0	0
Walker Groins and Ballast Depôt.						
Stone from Bill-point, or elsewhere, to complete the river-front, westward of Mr. C. Hunter's quay, to the proper height, including the building of Mr. Sewell's quay				400	0	0
Dredging Machine.						
Dredging with the present machine in various parts of the river				500	0	0
Moorings in the River.						
Moorings already put down	£200	0	0			
Additional moorings required	200	0	0			
				400	0	0
Stock required.						
A new dredging-machine, with the necessary appendages	£2,000	0	0			
Four new craft	600	0	0			
				2,600	0	0
				£6,170	0	0

The material from Bill-point is only to be used as long as it is found that it can be applied with advantage in the formation of the river-works: other suitable material to be substituted if found to be less expensive.

This estimate includes the cost of a new dredging-machine, and four craft—it being of the first importance that the Committee should have a sufficient establishment to enable them to carry on their operations effectively.

As the amount of the sum to be expended for river improvements in 1842 will have to be determined on the 24th inst., the River Committee have directed this Report to be printed, and a copy to be sent to each member of the Council.

The Committee cannot conclude this Report without stating to the Council, that any credit which may be due for the planning and making arrangements for the execution of the various works which have been carried on under their direction, belongs exclusively to their late excellent engineer, Mr. Anderson. The only credit to which the Committee can justly lay claim is, that they have cheerfully devoted much of their time and attention to the carrying into effect in the most economical manner the plans of the Engineer. A. L. POTTER, Chairman.

Committee Room, Newcastle, 19th Nov., 1841.

Mr. Ald. POTTER moved that the Report be received.—Seconded by Mr. BLACKWELL, and carried.

Mr. Ald. POTTER brought forward the motion of which he had given notice, viz., "That the Council do take into consideration the amount of the allowance to be made to the River Committee for the ensuing year." The Report just read, he observed, had been prepared expressly for the information of the Council, to enable them to come to a decision on the foregoing motion. It would show them what had been done, and what had been spent, and would set the River Committee right with the Council. Mr. P. proceeded to enforce the importance of going forward with the works now in progress, and spoke of the necessity of procuring a new dredger. With this view, he moved that the allowance for the ensuing year be £6,500.

Mr. ROBINSON seconded the motion.

Mr. INGLEDEW thought that it should first be shown whether the operations of the River Committee had really improved the river. The Report was silent on this subject.

Mr. Ald. DUNN, after a few compliments to the River Committee, and to Mr. Anderson, the engineer, contended that the expenditure of the Council should not exceed the income. If so, they could not grant the Committee £6,500. Mr. Potter said that the Committee only proposed paying for a portion of the proposed new dredger in the present year. Why not defer the payment of the whole until the following year? The River Committee would then require no larger sum than the Finance Committee had assigned to them. And there were plenty of persons who could readily furnish a dredger this year, on condition of payment in the next. He would move, as an amendment, that the amount allowed to the River Committee be £5,200.

Mr. Ald. LAMB seconded the amendment.

Mr. LOWREY supported the original motion.

Mr. BLACKWELL followed on the same side.—The Council should be liberal to the River Committee. If not, they would strengthen the hands of those who advocated a River Commission. (Hear, hear.) Indeed, from what he had seen and heard, he was so convinced of an indisposition on the part of many members of the Council to promote the due improvement of the river——(cries of "Order, order!" "Don't impute motives!" &c.)

Mr. Ald BIGGE: Mr. Blackwell was not imputing motives.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Certainly not. He disclaimed all imputation of motives. But, he repeated, there was, apparently, such an indisposition in many members to grant the means of improving the river, that he was almost half converted to the opinion that its management ought to be placed in commission. (Cries of "Hear, hear," "No, no.") He spoke for himself. He had no wish to see the conservatorship consigned to a commission; but most assuredly it would be taken out of the hands of the Council, if, as its conservators, they suffered themselves to fall into disrepute. To furnish the requisite means of improvement might be attended with temporary inconvenience, but he was convinced that all monies expended on the river would ultimately prove a profitable investment.

Mr. A. NICHOL, J.P., could not concur in the recommendation of Mr. Ald. Dunn, to procure a dredger on trust; and he was surprised that the Chairman of the Finance Committee, after stating, and very truly, that there was not £6,500 to spare, should proceed to recommend the River Committee to get into debt. It would be better to borrow money, and buy a dredger at once. It was a very improvident mode of doing business, to buy an article on long credit. In conclusion, Mr. Nichol remarked, that the Council certainly did not spend so much money on the river as they ought to do.

Mr. HARLE concurred in Mr. Nichol's closing remarks. The river was the source of a large portion of the revenues of the Corporation, and its improvement should be conducted with no niggardly hand—especially when they considered how narrowly the proceedings of the Council were watched by three great communities on the Tyne, numbering amongst them many zealous and able advocates of a Commission. He would deal liberally with the River Committee—he would assign to them adequate funds for the improvement of the river—but he would require of them to employ the highest professional talent in the direction of the works which they undertook to perform.

Mr. Ald. BRANDLING considered the river paramount to every other claim upon their attention, and would appeal to the Town Improvement Committee to surrender £1,000 or £1,200 towards the river-works. (Laughter.) The improvement of the river was of infinitely greater importance than the improvement of the town.

Mr. CRAWHALL would be liberal to the River Committee, because it was wise and just that they should be so—not because complaints were made by persons out of doors, who advocated a River Commission. He would not concede an atom on such grounds. Concession would have no effect upon such persons, unless to make them more clamorous.

Mr. Ald. FIFE observed, that if there was one thing more

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than another to which the Reformed Corporation was pledged, it was to the proper improvement of the river.

Mr. A. G. Gray and Mr. Ald. Donkin supported the original motion.

Mr. Philipson also supported it. With respect to a River Commission, he observed, whenever an inquiry was made, he was convinced that the Council would be able to show, clearly and satisfactorily, that they had been faithful conservators of the river.

Mr. Straker entered into several minute details, to show that the money already granted to the Committee had not been expended with wisdom and economy.

Mr. T. Dunn opposed the motion. Mr. Ald. Brandling had called upon the Town Improvement Committee to dispense with the embellishment of the town, and hand over £1,000 or £1,200 to the River Committee. But this was impossible—and for the simple reason that they had no money at their command for purposes of embellishment. The whole was required for cleansing and repairs. If the Council desired it, the Town Improvement Committee would surrender a portion of its grant for river-purposes, but they must, at the same time, instruct the Committee what streets were to be left uncleansed and unrepaired in consequence. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Potter replied to the opponents of the motion, and it was then put and carried.

Mr. A. G. Gray moved the resolution of which he had given notice:—"That before any contract for building-leases of ground belonging to the Master and Brethren of the Hospital of Saint Mary Magdalene be sealed by the Corporation, such contract, and the plan of the proposed buildings, be submitted to the Council for consideration, and reported on by the Town Improvement Committee."

Mr. A. Nichol, J.P., seconded the motion.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Preston rose to move:—That steps be taken to produce an immediate and final adjustment of the suit with the Master, Brethren, and Sisters of Jesus' Hospital, by granting £900 per annum to the hospital, to be charged on the Walker estate.

Mr. Ingledew wished to say, before Mr. Preston proceeded further, that when he (Mr. I.) was elected to the Council, some remarks were made to the effect that he was disqualified to sit in that chamber, because he was the solicitor of the plaintiffs in this suit against the Corporation; and he had determined, in his own mind, that whenever the subject came on for discussion in the Council, he would quit the room. In conformity, therefore, with this determination, he now retired. (So saying, Mr. Ingledew left the chamber.)

Mr. Preston resumed, and supported his motion at considerable length. In addition, however, to the words above given, which stood on the "notice paper," Mr. Preston's motion included an undertaking on the part of the Council to pay the arrears and law-expenses. But he proposed to make this undertaking the subject of a second resolution.

An objection was made to this proceeding by Mr. Philipson. He would not prevent Mr. Preston from introducing new matter into his resolution, however irregular: but he must object to the submission of new matter in the form of a distinct resolution. Let Mr. Preston bring forward his whole proposal at once, and then the Council would know what they had to deal with.

The Mayor concurred with Mr. Philipson that it was not competent to Mr. Preston to move a second resolution, of which he had not given notice.

Mr. Preston then said that he would simply move that the suit be compromised by granting £900 per year to the hospital, charged on the Walker estate.

Mr. Straker seconded the motion, and a long discussion followed, which terminated in the rejection of the motion by 31 votes against 13.

For the Motion.—Mr. Ald. Brandling, and Messrs. Straker, Harle, Radford, Crawhall, Turner, Taylor, Dodds, Archbold, Preston, Hawthorn, Richardson, and Palmer.

Against the Motion.—The Mayor, Aldermen Dunn, Donkin, Fife, Potter, Ridley, and Losh, and Messrs. Robinson, Stokoe, John Nichol, Pitts, Burrell, Mitchell, J. T. Carr, Proctor, Gray, John Ridley, M. L. Jobling, Philipson, Blackwell, Dunn, Charnley, Storey, Sillick, Johnson, Lowrey, Rayne, Justice Nichol, Keenlyside, and Finlay.

Mr. Harle moved:—That the Town Improvement Committee be instructed to consider the propriety and the mode of rendering the Guildhall more convenient for public meetings.

Sir John Fife seconded the motion.—Passed unanimously.

Mr. Straker moved the employment of reporters to take down and write out the proceedings of each Council meeting, that they might be printed and circulated.—Not seconded.

The Council, after disposing of miscellaneous business, separated until the first Wednesday in February.

The Hotel des Invalides.—The pensioners admitted into the Hotel des Invalides, at Paris, the *Echo du Monde Savant* informs us, are classed as follows, according to their infirmities and age:—

Blind	154	The feet frozen in Russia	28
Both legs cut off	12	Maimed in the hand	132
One leg cut off	313	Different other wounds	1,027
Two arms cut off	9	Lay brothers	178
One arm cut off	226	Aged seventy and upwards	516
Paralytic, or impotent	237	Eighty and upwards	516
Epileptic	12		
Mad	31		3,051
Nose or chin of silver	8	Ordinary number of admissions per year	200
Lame, or incapable of walking	133		

PASSING THOUGHTS.

BY A SILENT MEMBER OF THE NEWCASTLE TOWN-COUNCIL.

1. I *think* the widows increase upon us. Two-and-twenty candidates for an hospital-place! They will soon outnumber the Council, and we shall have the seizure of the Sabine women reversed. The bachelor-members, indeed, would be fair game. Conceive a wanton widow running off with Alderman Brandling!

2. I *think* friend Straker made the River Alderman stand aghast, when he suggested that we should not be restricted to one speech per man.

3. I *think*, when the suggestion was laughed out of court, George exhibited much ingenuity in his proposal to make speeches under the disguise of "questions," that he might obtain leave to keep up a running fire on the river-gods.

4. I *think* the Walker "groins" are like Uncle Toby's—the subject of much delicate discussion.

5. I *think* that Potter's allusion to a River Commission, followed by Blackwell's more direct remarks, made a trifling commotion amongst us. And the Conservative Conservators, Whig and Tory, may well shake in their shoes, when the Commission-controversy intrudes itself even within the sacred walls of the Council-chamber.

6. I *think* that Justice Nichol was justified in his remark upon Alderman Dunn's proposal to the River Committee. To refuse them £1,300, and advise them to incur a debt of upwards of £2,000, was certainly an admirable mode of encouraging economy.

7. I *think* that Lockey Harle's "freak of Nature" frightened the Quaysiders. It would be no joke, indeed, to leave their beds some fine morning, and find that "coaly Tyne" had left his "bed" also!

8. I *think* Crawhall forgot his cunning, and allowed the Toryism of his heart free vent, when he declared his determination to disregard the "pressure from without," and not concede one atom to agitation, on the true Tory principle that concession creates increased demands. His counsel to the Councillors to pay no heed to the Press, must have convinced the whole of them that he does not himself make use of his pen in the papers. Perhaps this was the intention of his speech.

9. I *think* that Straker's "imitations" of Robinson would draw a good house in the theatre. Let Mr. Ternan make the experiment.

10. I *think* that Ingledew's clients lost nothing by the retirement of their worthy solicitor from the Council-room, he left them so zealous an advocate behind, in the person of John Hughes Preston.

11. I *think* that Crawhall's wish, however amiable, was not characterized by remarkable wisdom. He may sneer at political economists as he may, but the fact will still stare him in the face, that lax charity breeds the very ills it was meant to cure. The supply of candidates outruns the demand, and, as Sir Robert Peel would say, there is an "overproduction" of subjects of relief. The "array of widows" to which he appealed in support of his argument for large hospital accommodation, might rather have been pleaded against his position. But the question is a difficult one—none more perplexing.

12. I *think* that Philipson did well to remind his colleagues, that they were trustees of the Borough Fund as well as of the Hospital. Compromises are always questionable, and, in the present case, the Burgesses, truly, have a stronger claim on the Council than the Freemen. Freemen! faugh! The distinction is odious in the year 1841, and cannot too soon be abolished.

13. I *think* I was surprised that Messrs. Straker and Harle voted with Mr. Preston. Was it to find favour in the eyes of the Freemen?

14. I *think* I was better pleased with Harle's excellent proposal to improve the Guildhall for public meetings, by running a gallery or platform along the north side, in continuation of the grand-jury box. But the *arch* mode of entering the new gallery! Oh, Lockey, Lockey! my sides are aching yet, at your unmentionable plan! You should have a patent for it.

15. I *think* it was a droll idea in Councillor Straker, to propose the employment of an official Reporter, to record *in full* the sayings and doings of our Worshipful Body. Justice Nichol was right. The newspapers already publish enough—aye, and more than enough—of our

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Council-room oratory. Those of us who think differently should employ Reporters at their own expense.

16. I *think* I must publish the doggrel which (lucky fellow!) I picked up in the Council-room, just as we were moving off. It has been written, apparently, by some one who wished to carry out the suggestion of supplying the omissions of lazy Reporters; and I suspect that Alderman Potter must have scribbled it, while he was pretending (sly rogue!) to take notes for his reply. But this is mere conjecture. Here is the production—and let every one judge for himself who is the author:—

Robinson, Sirs,
Makes much fun, Sirs,
Winks and shrugs,
When in his lugs
My tales I'm telling;
Goes a-swelling
O'er the Sandhill
To committee,
Though unfit he
Is to handle
River-matters:
But it flatters
Such men's pride
To sit beside
Their betters, and
Look large and grand,
Cracking jokes
At wiser folks.
Now I'll unfold
A tale I've told
Ten times before:
But with some score
Of variations—
New revelations,
Which will appal
You one and all.
River botch'd,
All hotch-potch'd,
Mr. Spark
A mere mud-lark,
Anderson
At last is gone,
Mr. Hughes
Stands in his shoes,
Potter rules
The river-fools;
Too much talk,
Too little chalk;
All goes wrong,
(So runs my song);
Stephen jobs,
Another robs;
Some get drunk;
I'm in a funk;
Vex'd to see
None notice me;
Walker groins
Cost lots of coins;
Old Bill point
Out of joint;
The quay-affair
Makes me swear;
Three-inch slope
Would vex the Pope;
Hunter's quay, too,
You should see to;
Sotheran's trick
Makes me sick;
Copperas-liquor
Makes me sicker;
Losh and Sewell
Wouldn't do ill
By intention,
Right to mention
I absolve them,
Don't involve them;
'Twas not they
Who ran away
With the stone
That makes me moan;
Some folks grumble
At my jumble;
But gross abuses
Form my excuses;
Hopper-barges
Bring large charges;
River-dredger
Swells the ledger;
Until I reign
In Potter's stead,
(Don't think me vain,)
I've often said
There'll be no good,
That's clear as mud;
My toil and trouble
I will redouble,
And hubble-bubble
'Bout piles and rubble,
Till A. L. P.
Gives up to me.
Meanwhile a verse
I will rehearse:—

Women and men you all must know,
Are awkward things for men to hit,
For true no-meaning (my speeches show)
Puzzles the mind far more than wit.

17. I *think* that George Straker's motion, of which he gave notice, to hold our meetings in the Guildhall, ought to pass the Council. We should then have room to breathe, and it would be more satisfactory to our constituents to allow them the privilege of admission. Few of them would devote their time to attending our meetings; but the very circumstance that they were at liberty to be present, would gratify the burgesses, and increase their confidence in the Council. I hope, therefore, that Mr. Straker will press his motion to a division. He may rely upon the vote of A THINKING MAN.

Newcastle, Nov. 24, 1841.

Mr. Bowes, M.P., has sent half of a fine fat buck to Mr. C. Lodge, at Stockton, to celebrate the birth of the young Prince.

The anniversary meeting of the subscribers to the Walker Library and Newsroom, was held on Thursday evening last, in a commodious room, which (together with fire and gas-light, and a liberal subscription besides,) is kindly supplied by the proprietors of the Walker iron-works. J. L. Bell Esq., Vice-President, occupied the chair on the occasion; and the Report which was presented and read by the Secretary, afforded the gratifying information that the roll of members now contains upwards of 100, and that the funds are in a flourishing state, nearly £50 having been expended during the past year, in the purchase of books, newspapers, &c., and a balance still remaining in the Treasurer's hands. The library contains 678 volumes—a number which, we are glad to hear, will be considerably increased before the next anniversary. These "marches of intellect" at Walker afford us very much pleasure.—Nov. 27.

William Graham, a farm-servant with George Sowerby, Esq., of Shipcote, Mayor of Gateshead, destroyed himself on Monday, by cutting his throat with a razor, in an out-house. An inquest was held on Tuesday: verdict, "Temporary insanity." The deceased was an industrious and meritorious servant, and no cause whatever, save what the verdict mentions, can be assigned for the fatal deed. He resided near the old turnpike-gate, and had dined with his family shortly before he committed the act of self-destruction.—Nov. 27.

The Earl of Elgin died at Paris on the 14th Nov., in the 76th year of his age. His lordship was the direct representative in the male line of the illustrious house of Bruce, and is succeeded in his titles and estates by Lord Bruce, M.P. for Southampton, who was born in 1800. "The diplomatic services rendered to his country by the late Earl of Elgin, as Ambassador at Constantinople, during a momentous period of the great European contest, were only equalled (says *Galignani*) by the immense good which his lordship conferred on the cause of the fine arts, in rescuing the marbles of the Parthenon at Athens from the destruction which inevitably awaited them, and in securing such an invaluable possession for Great Britain. The Earl was at all times a generous patron of literature, science, and the fine arts, and in politics a staunch Conservative." The deceased was President to the Society of Antiquaries in Scotland, and a family-trustee of the British Museum. His collection of Athenian marbles was purchased by the British nation, in 1816, for £35,000; and his removal of them from Greece gave rise to that fierce, but splendid (though somewhat unjust) philippic by Byron, "The Curse of Minerva," in which the indignant goddess, complaining of the violation of the Parthenon, says:—

Be ever hail'd with equal honour here,
The Gothic Monarch and the Pictish Peer!
Arms gave the first his right: the last had none,
But basely stole what less barbarians won.
So when the lion quits his fell repast,
Next prowls the wolf, the filthy jackall last:
Flesh, limbs, and blood, the former make their own—
The last poor brute securely gnaws the bone.

THE GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.—The statistics of students in the different German universities, in the first session of 1841, have been published, and are as follows:—

	Theology.	Law.	Medicine.	Philosophy.	Total.
Berlin	363	514	408	393	1,678
Bonn	176	198	106	114	594
Breslau	290	196	125	100	631
Erlangen	145	86	57	23	311
Fribourg	95	100	94	12	301
Giessen	—	—	—	—	407
Gottingen	167	268	195	74	704
Halle	420	90	110	62	682
Heidelberg	20	373	140	22	614
Gena	134	157	78	91	460
Kœnigsburg	114	81	78	117	390
Leipsic	254	366	221	94	935
Marbourg	67	110	41	13	285
Munich	190	392	140	462	1,371
Tubingen	208	104	120	182	739
Wurtsbourg					443
Greunswold					189
	2,647	3,035	1,914	1,759	10,734

THE CENSUS.—A few details from the population-tables will be acceptable. And first as to the four northern counties of England:—

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.
Durham	160,361	177,625	207,673	253,910	324,995
Cumberland	117,230	133,744	156,124	169,681	177,912
Westmorland	41,617	45,922	51,359	55,041	55,469
Northumberland	157,101	172,161	198,965	222,912	250.268

In every county of England and Wales there has been a progressive increase in the population. In seven of the Scotch counties, viz., Argyle, Dumfries, Haddington, Kinross, Peebles, Perth, and Sutherland, there has been a decrease since 1831. The total population of Great Britain at the present time, as compared with previous periods, is as follows:—

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.
Eng. & Wales	8,872,980	10,150,615	11,978,875	13,897,187	15,911,725
Scotland	1,599,068	1,813,668	2,093,456	2,365,114	2,628,957
Islands			89,508	103,710	124,079
	10,472,048	11,964,303	14,161,839	16,366,011	18,664,761

This return includes only such part of the army, navy, and merchant-seamen, as were on shore in the kingdom at the time.

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GATESHEAD BOROUGH PROPERTY.

TO W. H. BROCKETT AND JAMES HYMERS, Esqrs.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the National Charter Association of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, have hitherto refrained from addressing you, in consequence of expecting some mark of public approbation being expressed by the people of Gateshead, relative to the laudable manner in which you have acted with regard to the Borough Property—for your generous and disinterested disposal of the rental derived from that property to charitable purposes. You have set an example of local patriotism hitherto unequalled in the history of the borough. When you were non-Boroughholders, you proclaimed to the world that that property was public property, and nobly tried to wrest it from the hands of those who arrogantly style themselves its owners. You were unsuccessful, owing to the supineness or parsimony of a robbed and an insulted population You have since become holders of the said property, and, consequently, as deeply interested in maintaining its legality as the most avaricious of your brother usurpers of the inhabitants' rights; but high and lofty principle—not sordid gain nor personal ambition—has actuated your every action in the struggle in which you have been so honourably engaged for the people of Gateshead. We give you credit for what you have done. Although differing from you in political opinions, we are not insensible to virtuous and disinterested actions, which have a tendency to promote the public good, though they emanate from our political foes.

Gentlemen, while we give you credit for the past, we would most respectfully call your attention to the present and the future. You are well aware that the Windmill Hills have been shamefully invaded. The walls that surrounded those hills have been torn down by ruthless hands—the pleasant paths have been disgracefully ploughed up—and the Town Council of Gateshead, to which you have the honour to belong, have not uttered one single word in condemnation of the shameful and perfidious outrage perpetrated at mid-day against the people of Gateshead. Aye! and by men, too, who were loud enough in their condemnation of the Boroughmongers as public robbers, and from a portion of whose windows the Radical banners have waved majestically in the air.

From you, Gentlemen, we hope for much. We expect the precedent established in the late William Falkous's case will not be forgotten. If you endeavour to preserve the "Hills," you will insure the gratitude of hundreds of working men, who are daily pent up in an unhealthy atmosphere, and deprived, by a clique of interested individuals, of that which justly belongs to them. Oh! Gentlemen! poverty might have been your lot, and think of the workmen that lie down after a hard day's toil in the same room where the fresh-washed clothes are exposed to dry from the warmth of his little fire, in consequence of the state the "Hills" are now in. And is it too much to presume that disease, with all its hideous train of evils, will be entailed upon the poor creatures doomed so to expose themselves, through the culpable apathy and indifference of some, and the griping avariciousness of others. Tell those misguided men who are erecting property upon the "Hills," that they have no right to do so, and that the day may come when the people, smarting under a sense of wrong, may take that "wild justice" upon their property, for which the law would grant no redress—a species of "wild justice" which, while we would not justify, we sincerely could not condemn.

Gentlemen, that you may long enjoy life, health, and strength, and be able to effect the accomplishment of all we so sincerely hope for—a restoration of the Borough Property to the People—is the unanimous wish of the Newcastle Charter Association.

WILLIAM DEAS, Chairman.
JAMES SINCLAIR, Secretary.

MR. BROCKETT'S REPLY.

TO THE DEPUTATION OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg you will do me the favour to convey to the members of the National Charter Association of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the expression of my gratitude for the address which they have done me the honour to transmit to me; and I beg you also, (the deputation to whom its presentation has been entrusted,) to accept my thanks for the compliment you have paid me.

The part I have taken with respect to the Borough Property has been the result of mature deliberation and sincere conviction. Before asserting the right of my townsmen to the proceeds of their own "fields," I assure you I satisfied myself of its justice; and the grounds on which my hostility to any division of rents amongst the Boroughholders was originally founded, have appeared to me more just and unanswerable, the more I have considered and discussed them.

It was with pleasure that I became a Boroughholder—not because I cared for the sneers of the selfish, but because I believed I should thereby acquire additional power for the accomplishment of my object—the re-application of the Borough Property to the purposes to which, from time immemorial, it had been appropriated.

That great and just object, I have no doubt whatever, will be ultimately attained. Happily for the people of England, the difficulties in the way of those who, whether wickedly or ignorantly, deny the public its due, are numerous. These difficulties beset the Boroughholders on every side. In every possible manner they shall be multiplied and rendered more insurmountable by me. So long as I shall possess the slightest ability for opposition, it shall be exerted—*in favour* of the people of Gateshead—*against* the spoliators of the Windmill Hills. And supported as I have no doubt I shall continue to be, by the good opinion of a large majority of the inhabitants, I shall proceed in the path I have marked out, regardless of consequences. To have abandoned my early opinions on this question, might have rendered my position quieter, but certainly not more satisfactory, than it is. I am sorry—very sorry—to have to place myself in collision with persons, many of whom I have reason to respect and esteem; but I should consider myself deserving of their contempt as well as condemnation, were I to sacrifice principle to the attainment of their approbation.

The same compass, Gentlemen, by which I have always, politically, steered, directs me in my operations against the Boroughholders. I adopt the course which my conscience tells me is the right one, and I contentedly abide the issue. And after saying thus much, I hope, as you have alluded to "political foes" in your address, you will permit me to add, that I am no "foe" to the political claim which your Association, in common with a considerable portion of my countrymen, has asserted—I mean, Universal Suffrage. I have always admitted the abstract right of every Englishman to be consulted in the enactment of laws which he is expected to obey—and I do so still. I only differ from you as to the means by which this great privilege is to be obtained. You, if I understand you rightly, would proceed at once, regardless of difficulty or danger, to the end in view. I would approach it by a more circuitous, because, in my opinion, more certain path. I foresee (of course I may be wrong) many chances of failure by the prosecution of your plan, but I entertain much hope of success by the pursuit of mine. Against monopolists of either national or local rights, I would direct the same series of operations. I would dispute the ground with them inch by inch. I would show them, day after day, and year after year, by gradual removals of their outworks, not only the folly of continued resistance, but the justice of the cause against which their resistance is directed. To selfish violations of privilege or principle, I would oppose calmness and caution, accompanied always by firmness and determination:—in short, I would strive for the overthrow of my adversary rather by the quiet process of capitulation, than by the more impetuous, but, not unfrequently, more dangerous expedient of a storm.

Gateshead, Dec. 1, 1841. W. H. BROCKETT.

MR. JAMES HYMER'S REPLY.

TO THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

GENTLEMEN,—I return you many thanks for the expressions of your approval of the course Mr. Brockett and myself have taken with respect to the Borough Property.

Mr. Brockett having so fully entered upon the subject, I have only to say, that I shall always most cheerfully co-operate with him, or any other person, for the purpose of asserting and recovering rights which I consider to be unjustly withheld from the public.

JAMES HYMERS.

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LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S REPLY TO THE PLYMOUTH COUNCIL

We stated last week, that Lord John Russell, on his recent visit to Plymouth, had been presented with an address from the town-council; and we have now the pleasure of publishing his lordhip's excellent reply :—

Gentlemen,—I am deeply sensible of the kindness and confidence which have induced the inhabitants of Plymouth to vote the address you have just presented to me.

The late Administration endeavoured to relieve the country from those taxes which are paid to the landowners, to the West India planters, and other favoured classes, at the expense of the community at large. They attempted, above all, to subject the admission of foreign corn to a known and moderate duty, in place of a scale so curiously adjusted, that it *baulks the farmer* at one moment and *starves the people* at another, while it *defrauds the revenue* at all times.

The whole strength of monopoly, however, joined with the compact forces of an adverse party, defeated our efforts, and have placed a new Ministry in power.

Still, if the people are united, prohibitions and prohibitory duties will share the fate of civil disabilities on religious grounds, the slavery of our negro fellow subjects, and other works of darkness. Nor is it necessary for this purpose that the late Ministry should be restored to power. The men who surrendered what they deemed the essential bulwarks of the Church and the Constitution of the menaces of the Roman Catholic Association of Ireland, will be sure to yield the fortresses of Commercial Restriction, when they shall be summoned to do so by the peaceful, but powerful voice of the people of England and Scotland.

Those who have resigned office have the satisfaction of thinking, that with the exception of the obstacles which self-interest opposes to the measures necessary for restoring our trade to a sound condition, and thereby invigorating our finances, they have left their successors an easy task. The suppression of sedition at home, without suspending the Constitution or the odious employment to spies—the rule of Ireland in conformity with the wishes of the great majority of its inhabitants—the establishment of just principles of government in our colonies, together with a firm but pacific policy abroad, have made the empire so strong that nothing but the grossest incapacity can endanger its fortunes or impair its reputation. J. Russell.

This is Lord John's "*last*," and, truly, he can hardly go "*beyond it*." It is one more nail in the corn-law coffin, and has stung the Tories to the quick. The effect which it has produced amongst the monopolists, may be judged of from the ebullition of one of their organs :—

"Plymouth," says the Tory penman, "is the sink of Whiggery in the fair county of Devon. The Plymouth people are a peculiar race; they live in an atmosphere of tar and mud; they are intimately acquainted with marine stores; and their general diet being red herrings, salt pork, hard ship's beef, and ship's biscuits, their constitutions take thir distinctive character therefrom; and being peculiarly lean, ill-favoured, and sour, they are of course peculiarly Whiggish."

This is certainly a shocking sketch of our amphibious fellow-countrymen of Plymouth; but what could they expect, after procuring for the Tories such a rap on the knuckles as they have just received from Lord John? They richly deserved to be reminded of that dirty "atmosphere" in which they live, and that vulgar "diet" on which they subsist, and both of which are so degrading to them in the eyes of "re-spect-a-ble," "fine-gentlemen" Conservatives! "An ounce of civet, good apothecary!"

THE COAL TRADE.

A meeting of the Committee of the South Shields Shipowners' Society was held on Monday last, (E. T. Wawn, Esq., in the chair,) to consider the following resolutions, which had been received from the London coal-factors, and the coal-trade committee, in answer to applications from the Society, for the assistance of these bodies in devising measures for remedying the distress in the coal-carrying trade to London :—

LONDON COAL-FACTORS' RESOLUTION.

That the factors have long deplored the very depressed state of the coal-trade; and if they had any remedy for it, beyond a regulation of the shipping, they would have felt it their duty to have suggested it to the coal and ship owners. The remedy of a regulated supply they have repeatedly offered, but hitherto without effect—as up to the 30th of September last, the supply was 196,960 tons in advance of the corresponding period of 1840; and when it is considered, that such excess is concurrent with a very depressed state of trade in general, its effects have been injurious in a greater degree than it would have been, had trade been more prosperous.

NEWCASTLE COAL-TRADE COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS.

1. The United Committee have given their best attention to the resolutions of the Shipowners' Society, feeling most desirous to unite with them in the adoption of any measure calculated to improve the state of the trade, and thereby promote the common interest of all parties interested in it. They however recollect the just complaints of the shipowners of the great delay and heavy expense of detaining ships in London, and they feel unwilling to revive a plan so difficult to work, and so certain to lead to the abuses of which both shipowners and coal-owners on former occasions had so much reason to complain.

2. That in compliance with the wishes of the shipowners and factors, the Committee have, during the present year, given out the issues upon so moderate a scale, that the supply of coals sent to London has not been more than the London market has been adequate to take off, and that they are satisfied of the necessity of adhering to the same system in future. They believe that by steadily acting on this principle the permanent wellbeing of the trade will be best maintained. But they will be at all times ready to give a most attentive consideration to any suggestion which the shipowners may make, for the furtherance of that desirable object.

Upon this reply, the following resolutions were adopted by the South Shields Society :—

1. That from the communication which has been received from the Coalowners' Committee in Newcastle, it is perfectly evident to this Committee, that the shipowners cannot expect any assistance from the coalowners, in any measure calculated to improve the carrying trade in coals.

2. That as there is a redundance of tonnage in the coal trade, which renders a stoppage of the vessels necessary, either at London or at the loading ports in the North, and as the expences are much increased by that detention taking place in London, this Committee earnestly recommend to all shipowners engaged in the coal trade, to enter into an arrangement at the different ports, to let their ships lie seven running days each voyage, before they are fixed on a coal list; and with that view it is resolved, that communications be immediately made to the Shipping Societies at this and the other coal-shipping ports, requesting their co-operation in the measure, and stating that a deputation from the Committee will, if required, wait upon them, to confer on the details of the measure, and on any other matter which may appear to be beneficial to the interests concerned.

We lament as much as any one can do, that distress in the coal-trade, and the deprivations it necessarily imposes on every branch of our local commerce; but we can only repeat our candid opinion, that monopoly is as bad a system when applied o coal, as to any other article, and that in nothing would "free trade" be more beneficial than in preserving to the Tyne, Tees, and Wear, the superiority which their natural advantages enable them to maintain. And it is of no use arguing the point—for it must come to this at last.

THE FINE ARTS.

The annual meeting of the North of England Society for the Promotion of the Fine Arts, was held on Friday, Dec. 3, in the Society's rooms, Market-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

William Ord, Esq., M.P., presided, and introduced the business of the day with a few appropriate remarks.

Mr. W. L. Harle, one of the Hon. Secretaries, then read the Report of the Committee, as follows :—

"The Committee, at the close of the fourth year's proceedings of the Society, beg to congratulate the members on the gratifying position still maintained by the institution. The leading objects of the Society have been steadily kept in view ever since the last anniversary; and the Committee sincerely believe that their operations have been attended with undoubted advantage to the public taste and general refinement.

"In the course of the last year, Mr. Peter Nicholson's class for teaching Geometry, Projection, and Perspective, has been discontinued, chiefly on the ground of the increasing age and infirmities of that distinguished gentleman. The Committee propose to re-establish the class as soon as a preceptor with the necessary qualifications can be procured, and as soon as the disappearance of the present depressed condition of architecture and building shall increase the number of persons likely to avail themselves as pupils of the advantages of the class in question.

"Mr. Oliphant's class for teaching Drawing from the Figure has been highly successful as heretofore—the number of students during the year varying from 40 to 60. The drawings exhibited to-day will convince the meeting that few (if any) institutions of a similar character in the kingdom can vie with that under the able superintendence of Mr. Oliphant.

"The liberality of the Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P., in giving a prize of £5 for the best chalk drawing, will meet to day with its most appropriate reward. The Committee believe that if circumstances had permitted that gentleman to be here this day, he must have rejoiced to see the emulation and ability awakened by the prize so handsomely proposed by him at the last anniversary meeting.

"The Honourable Chairman will, in the course of the proceedings to-day, present to the meeting Mr. R. Davis, whose admirable drawing, now exhibited, clearly establishes him the successful competitor.

"During the year some very valuable literary contributions from the members have added much to the interest of the monthly meetings of the Society. Among these may be named a very beautiful paper on the Theory of Portrait Painting, by Mr. William Bainbridge, and a lecture on the Daguerreotype by Mr. H. L. Pattinson.

"A course of three lectures in the summer was delivered in the rooms by Mr. Heigham, on Ancient Monuments and Castles.

"Some important correspondence between the Manager of the School of Design at Somerset House, and the Committee, encourage the hope

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that the Society will shortly receive aid from the metropolitan institution, either in the shape of money, or casts from the antique.

"In order to extend further the usefulness of the Society, and enable the Committee the better to meet the debt incurred in furnishing these apartments, (a considerable portion of which, as will be seen by the Treasurer's statement, is still unpaid,) the Committee propose the establishment of a Bazaar, composed, as far as practicable, of articles requiring taste and talent in the construction. The Committee believe that this scheme, while it may materially assist the funds of the association, will assist also in the cultivation of the arts of design and ornamental manufactures. The Committee are aware that the aid of rank and beauty will be requisite to carry this plan into operation; and the Committee believe that the Arts will meet with support as warm, and industry as general, as their sister charity has experienced recently in this district.

"A new feature has marked the Exhibition of Pictures now adorning the walls of these apartments. In former years, one shilling each was the sum charged for admission to parties not members of this Society. This year, sixpence only has been the amount; and an increase of the gross sum derivable from visitors to the Exhibition, has been the gratifying result. The sixpenny admissions have produced £11 more than the shilling admissions of the previous year.

"The season-tickets for admission to the Exhibition were also reduced one-half; and the consequence has been, that more than double the number have been sold at 2s. 6d. each, than were sold at 5s. each.

"Two *Soirees*, with music, have been held in the rooms during the period of the Exhibition; but while they cannot be said to have been a source of loss to the Society, they cannot be said to have been so popular and attractive as to cause the Committee to repeat them.

"The Committee hope and believe that increased advantages to this town and neighbourhood await the operation of the Society, if a reasonable portion of patronage and support is rendered to the institution.

"The Arts cannot be said to languish in this country. Day after day, new efforts are being made to improve public taste and increase public improvement. The recent Commission to inquire whether the new Houses of Parliament cannot be rendered available for advancing high art, and the admirable Reports on designs for manufactures which have recently emanated from the House of Commons, are ample evidence that the arts are not neglected—that the gross, the material, and the sordid, are not altogether usurping the place of the imaginative and the refined. The Committee trust that the inhabitants of Newcastle, Gateshead, and the surrounding populous district, will be animated by the spirit of the times, and support and enlarge the North of England Society for the Promotion of the Fine Arts in their higher departments, and in their application to manufactures."

Mr. R. Davis, whose chalk drawing of "The Dancing Faun" had gained the prize, was introduced to the meeting, and presented with £5 by the Chairman, accompanied with a few complimentary remarks.

Wm. Hutt, Esq., M.P., rose to move the adoption of the Report. The honourable gentleman expressed his gratification at the prospects of the Society, and hoped that Mr. Nicholson's class would shortly be reopened. He promised to do his utmost to obtain for the Society a portion of the grant recently made by Parliament for the promotion and assistance of Fine Arts Institutions.

The Mayor of Newcastle (James Hodgson, Esq.,) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A. J. C. Baker Cresswell, Esq., M.P., moved the thanks of the meeting to the artists who had contributed to the Exhibition.

The motion was seconded by James Archbold, Esq., and carried unanimously.

The Hon. T. H. Liddell had much pleasure in moving the third resolution. He was happy to promote the objects of the Society in every way, and he thought the plan named in the resolution he was about to move would prove highly advantageous. The honourable gentleman proposed that artists and amateurs—and more especially ladies—be respectfully requested to aid, by the exercise of their ingenuity and talent, the Bazaar named in the Committee's Report.

The Sheriff of Newcastle (J. T. Carr, Esq.) seconded the motion, and it was carried with much applause.

Henry George Liddell, Esq. (eldest son of the Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P., who was himself prevented from being present by the illness of his daughter,) moved the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Oliphant, for the assiduity and ability with which he had conducted the Drawing Class.

Joseph Crawhall, Esq., seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The business of the meeting being closed, Mr. W. L. Harle said he had much pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to the Honourable Chairman, for the courtesy and ability with which he had conducted the business of the day; and he would take the liberty of observing, that he hoped the three Honourable Members present would unite in aiding the Society to obtain a portion of the grant of public money.

The motion was put by Mr. Hutt, and carried by acclamation.

Mr. Ord, in returning thanks, said he should be most happy to lend every aid in his power in obtaining a portion of the grant for the Society; and he would, in every way, promote the objects of the Society, as far as he possibly could.

The lots for the Art Union were then drawn, and the following are the prizes, with the names of the fortunate winners:—

£20 (in a painting or paintings), Mr. Hogg, Turk's Head.
£15, Mr. Mark Lambert Jobling, Solicitor.
£15, Mr. George Lambert, Grocer.
£10, Mr. Thomas Michael Greenhow, Surgeon.
£10, Mr. J. W. Bell, Confectioner.
£10, Mr. William Eddowes, South Shields.
£7, Dr. Cargill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
£5, Mr. William Anderson, South Shields.
£5, Mr. John Thornhill, Newcastle.
£5, Mr. James Archbold, Gallowgate.
£5, Mr. James Finlay, Bookseller.

PAST SUMMERS.

1816.—Extremely cold and wet throughout—one of the worst harvests ever known.

1817.—Very cold and wet in July and August, but very fine in September, which favoured the harvest.

1818.—Intensely hot and dry, the thermometer twice at 89, and often above 80.

1819.—A very fine hot summer—the month of August intensely hot—scarcely any thunder.

1820.—A fine summer on the whole, and very productive.

1821.—Some very hot days occasionally, but for the most part cold and showery. Immense rains during harvest, which did great damage.

1822.—A splendid year—hot and dry for the most part, but heavy rains at times, with much thunder. A very abundant harvest.

1823.—A very cold showery summer. In July it rained every day except the 24th—very little thunder.

1824.—Very fine and warm throughout, but never intensely hot. The thermometer stood highest Sept. 1, and was at 79.

1825.—Very hot almost throughout. July 18, the thermometer stood at 90, which is the highest observation in the course of all these summers.

1826.—The hottest and driest summer ever known—it began early and continued late. The thermometer was twice at 88 and often at 84.

1827.—Hot and dry, but not to such extremity as in the preceding summer—much thunder.

1828.—Immense rains, which began July 9, and continued almost without cessation. Large floods July 16 and 30. Heavy thunder storms; bad harvest.

1829.—A very cold stormy summer. In Sept. the rains were very heavy.

1830.—Very cold and wet, especially in June—much thunder.

1831.—Warm, gleamy, showery, and electrical. A sickly summer: great number of insects, especially house flies.

1832.—Moderate for the most part, without much inclination either one way or the other.

1833.—Very fine, the early part especially. An abundant harvest.

1834.—A very fine hot summer, but very heavy rains at the end of July. An early and productive harvest.

1835.—Hot and dry, with some showery exceptions. Another abundant harvest.

1836.—In the midland counties, dry weather predominated. Remarkable for the almost entire destruction of the turnip crop by the fly. Harvest not amiss.

1837.—A fair average of hot weather, but preceded by a very severe spring. Harvest deficient.

1838.—A cold wet summer, and a late unproductive harvest.

1839.—Very heavy rains, almost without cessation. The harvest not unproductive, but much damaged.

1840.—A fine warm summer, with intense heat in August—fine harvest weather; feed deficient.

1841.—Fine and warm in May and June; wet and cold in July and the beginning of August; fine harvest weather at the end, and in September.

Emigration.—The following data will show the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom, with their destination, during the year 1840, derived from official sources:—

To United States	38,495	West Indies	1,931
N. American colonies	27,025	New Zealand	1,338
Sydney	7,811	Cape of Good Hope	513
Port Philip	3,201	Van Diemand's Land	281
South Australia	2,911	West Australia	233

There is a movement in London to promote emigration on a large scale, as "one of the worthiest objects for the exercise of true Christian charity and benevolence." The motives of the projectors of this scheme we do not disparage, but we think it

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would be a worthier object of benevolence to enable our people to live at home.

THE CENSUS.—The census of 1841, as compared with that of 1831, shows the most rapid increase in the population to have taken place in the mining counties, whence the supplies of coal and iron are derived. Thus, while the increase per cent. in the whole of England has not been more than 14.5, in the following counties it has been—

Glamorgan,	37.	Durham,	27.2
Monmouth,	36.9	Staffordshire,	24.2

Those which come next in the rate of increase are the great manufacturing counties, viz.:—

Lancashire,	24.7	Cheshire,	18.4
Warwick,	19.4	West York,	18.2

Then comes the metropolitan county, the increase in Middlesex being 16 per cent. The agricultural counties come last. For instance:—

Essex,	8.6	Cumberland,	4.8
Buckingham,	6.4	Westmoreland,	2.5

The county of York, which in 1831 was predominant in point of population, has the supremacy in this respect no longer. The county of Lancaster has progressed with much greater rapidity, and is now the first county in England for the amount of its population. Yorkshire is the second; and Middlesex, which had heretofore been the second, is now the third. The population of these three great counties was as follows at the undermentioned periods:—

	Yorkshire.	Middlesex.	Lancashire.
1801	858,892	818,129	672,731
1811	986,174	953,276	828,309
1821	1,173,187	1,144,531	1,042,859
1831	1,371,359	1,358,330	1,336,854
1841	1,591,584	1,576,616	1,667,064

Of the 1,591,584 inhabitants of Yorkshire, the West Riding contains 1,154,924. The three counties of Lancaster, York, and Middlesex, comprise 4,835,264 inhabitants, being nearly one-third of the whole population of England. In 1700 the population of Lancashire was 166,200, just about half the present population of Manchester alone! In 1750 it was 297,400; so that even then, in its whole area of 1,165,529 acres, it had not a population equal to that of Manchester at this day.

The population of the English counties is respectively as follows:—

Bedford	95483	Middlesex	1358330
Berkshire	145389	Monmouth	98130
Buckinghamshire	146529	Norfolk	390054
Cambridgeshire	143955	Northampton	179336
Cheshire	334891	Northumberland	222912
Cornwall	300938	Nottinghamshire	225327
Cumberland	169681	Oxfordshire	152156
Derby	137170	Rutlandshire	19385
Devonshire	494478	Salop	225938
Dorsetshire	159252	Somersetshire	404200
Durham	253910	Southampton	314280
Essex	317507	Staffordshire	410512
Gloucester	387019	Suffolk	296317
Hereford	111211	Surrey	486334
Hertford	143341	Sussex	272340
Huntingdonshire	53192	Warwickshire	336610
Kent	479155	Westmoreland	55041
Lancaster	1336854	Wiltshire	240166
Leicester	197003	Yorkshire	1591584
Lincoln	317465		

The Mayor of Newcastle has this week received a letter from the Home Office, informing him that "Sir James Graham has recommended to the Lord Chancellor to insert the names of James Archbold, Esq., John Brandling, Esq., William Chapman, Esq., Joseph Crawhall, Esq., Joseph Hawks, Esq., Edward James, Esq., Michael Longridge, Esq., and W. Woods, Esq., in the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne." The letter did *not* state WHO had "recommended" those gentlemen to Sir James Graham. The mode adopted by the *late* Government was to consult the representatives of the burgesses, the Town Councils, on such subjects, whether such Councils were Whig or Tory. But the *present* Government, paying less deference to the burgesses, consult an anonymous and irresponsible *clique*.

GATESHEAD FELL BALL, at the PUBLIC ROOMS, GATESHEAD FELL, on THURSDAY, 16th December, 1841. Stewards—THOMAS SOWERBY, Esq., and JOHN GRACE, Esq. Music at half-past eight o'clock.

Gentlemen's Ticket, 6s. 6d.: Ladies', 4s., Tea included.

WM. BARKUS, Hon. Sec.

GATESHEAD UNION—CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS, CLOTHING, CLOTHING MATERIALS, &c.—The Board of Guardians of this Union hereby give notice, that at their Meeting to be held in the Board-room, High-street, Gateshead, on Tuesday, the 14th day of December 1841, they will receive tenders for supplying the Union with the following articles, to be delivered at the Gateshead Union Workhouse, for the three months commencing on Saturday, 25th of December, 1841, viz:—

PROVISIONS, &c.

Bread made of the best Seconds Flour, in loaves or buns, as may be required, at per 4 lb.
Bread made of Thirds Flour, or Maslin, sweet and sound at per 4 lb. loaf.
Best Fine Flour, per sack of 20 stones.
Best Scotch Oatmeal, ditto
SKIMMED MILK at per gallon.
Raw Sugar, per cwt.
Soap, per ditto
Soda, per ditto
Salt, per ditto
Candles, Dips, per doz. lb.
Good Congou Tea, per lb.
Roasted Coffee per ditto
Black Pepper, per lb.
Treacle, per stone.
Butcher Meat—To consist of Rounds and Flanks of best Ox or Heifer Beef, Houghs full cut and Sloats without the shank, and best Wether Mutton, in legs and loins, per st. The Weekly demand about 12 stones.
Coals unscreened, per chaldron
Ditto ¾ screened per ditto.

CLOTHING.

MEN, YOUTHS, AND BOYS.

Striped Shirts
Moleskin Jackets
Waistcoats lined with cotton, and Trowsers unlined.
Blue Kersey Jackets, Waistcoats, and Trowsers
Kersey Drawers, yarn Stockings
Hats, Boy's Caps

WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Blue Flannel Petticoats
Blue Harn Aprons
Unbleached ditto
Cotton Handkerchiefs
Straw Bonnets, Linen Caps
Shoes

CLOTHING MATERIALS.

White and Blue Flannel
Blue Kersey
Moleskin
Bed Ticking
Striped Cotton
Checked ditto, for Aprons
Blue Harn
Blankets, per pair
Striped and Brown Jersey
Strong White Linen
Grey Sheeting
White, Grey, and Black Calico
Blue Print
Rugs, Double Diaper
Coloured Counterpanes
Black and Coloured Yarn, per lb.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Clerk, at the Gateshead Union Office, will be received until one o'clock on Tuesday, the 14th of December, 1841.

The groceries to be tendered by samples; the clothing materials by pattern, with prices ticketed; and the ready-made clothing, and other articles of wear, according to pattern of each, deposited for inspection at the Gateshead Workhouse.

Each party whose tender may be accepted must be prepared (if required) to give security for the due fulfilment of the contract. By order of the Board of Guardians,

Gateshead Union Office, Dec. 3, 1841. WM. ROWNTREE, Clerk to the Union.

NO PATRIOT—ONLY A PARISHIONER.—At a recent accidental fire in the secluded parish of Dodford, Northamptonshire, the military were called in from Weedon Barracks, and speedily extinguished the flames. During the height of the conflagration, the following original dialogue occurred between a corporal and a countryman:—Corporal: Come, my man, don't stand there with your hands in your pockets: lend a hand in putting out the fire. Countryman: Noa, noa, I ha'e nothing to do with 'um: I belongs to the parish o' Norton.

SCAVENGER SHRIMPS.—The office of shrimps seems to be that analogous to that of some of the insects on land, whose task it is to clear away the remains of dead animal matter after the beasts and birds of prey have been satisfied. If a dead small bird or frog be placed where ants can have access to it, those insects will speedily reduce the body to a closely-cleaned skeleton. The shrimp family, acting in hosts, as speedily remove all traces of fish or flesh from the bones of any dead animal exposed to their ravages. They are, in short, the principal scavengers of the ocean, and, notwithstanding their office, they are deservedly and highly prized as nutritious and delicious food.—*Penny Cyclopædia.*

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THE "FARMERS' JOURNAL" AND MR. THOMAS BATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—The *Farmers' Journal*, in its glowing zeal to uphold the tottering cause of its monopolizing patrons, has given to the world the annual prophetic annunciations of that venerable soothsayer, Mr. Thomas Bates, of Kirkleavington, whose prediction that Lord Howick will never again be allowed to *mis*represent the North Division of Northumberland, and whose chagrin at the farmers of Tyneside refusing to improve their mongrel breed of cattle, lest he himself might be benefited by the purchase of a superior stock, together with a contemptible personality towards myself, tempt me to introduce the Editor *in propria persona*, "George Robins, Esq., the younger," to the readers of the *Gateshead Observer*. "Mr. Robins" lately made *some noise* while on his tour in Northumberland, to inquire strictly into the opinions of the farmers upon the Corn Laws; and as a contradiction to opinions delivered at the dinner given to Lord Howick at Alnwick, declared that 20 of them could not be found to support his Lordship in his visionary theories upon Free Trade. Pity that the facetious Editor had not prevailed upon his friend Bates to have borne with equanimity of temper his defeat at the Berwick Show, and taken him as a guide over the rugged steeps and fertile plains of Northumbria! He might then have escaped from many a peril on land and in flood, and have extended the circulation of the *New Farmers' Journal*, or, at all events, precluded its circulation from becoming narrower. "Mr. Robins" will understand me—as well, perhaps, as a celebrated animal portrait painter, who is supposed to have some interest in the Buckingham print.

A great degree of latitude ought to be given to old fanatics like Mr. Bates. His prejudices have taken too deep root for the force of truth to remove them. He (good old man!) would, like another Eldon, have tears at command, should he live to see the day when Lord Howick's principles *will* be established—I once heard him with astonishment (till I recollected his "wise saws" during the great contested election for Northumberland in 1826) declare at the foot of the forum of his early friend, the Hon. H. T. Liddell, and who (unfortunate aspirant to senatorial fame!) then got into hot water about some lip-service precedence. But the sage even "out Herodes Herod." Aye! he declared that the Corn Laws ought to be maintained in all their humane operations, in order that *bread might be cheap!* while last week, chuckling over the price of corn in Wakefield market, he smoothly tells the landlords that "the inferior samples will keep down the averages without a six weeks' average exceeding 68s. or 70s.;" so that the poor must be compelled to eat inferior bread, lest the fine wheats of other countries should come into competition with that grown upon the soils of Kirkleavington. Is this the humanity of a man who sits in judgment upon his neighbours! Charity does not consist in carrying Bibles under the arm—nor in loving greetings in the markets—neither in aspiring to the chief seats in the churches. When county elections are referred to as a proof that the farmers are in favour of the present Corn Laws, we ought to have stronger evidence that such is the truth, than the *ipse dixit* of Mr. Thomas Bates, or the bold statement of the *Farmers' Journal*. I call upon the latter—"George Robins" though he be—to obtain the names of 20 farmers in Northumberland, *who will make a public declaration that they are satisfied with the Corn Laws as they are.* Perhaps he may resume his borrowed dignity, and demand the glove from some more delicate hand; but if I can prove that his patrons are not over-fastidious concerning the means *they* take to accomplish *their* ends, then they must be hypocrites who measure the standard of the moral laws, not by a universal maxim, but by the slavish, and sneaking, and cowardly principle of self-interest. Mr. Bates *will*, but the Editor of the *Farmers' Journal* can *not* believe, that no opinions, no principles of civil government, can advance without the aid of wealth. The struggles that were formerly waged in this country were between the people and the monarchy. The latter had to succumb, and restrain its gratifications within certain bounds. The struggle is now between the people and an oligarchy. It will soon be over—and it will be a final struggle. Should Peel propose such measures as will relieve the dire necessities of the people, then overboard that subtle statesman must cast the Duke of Buckingham, and such as he; else the people may as well look for a second Messiah, as to expect that anything but a mockery of their grievances can emanate from such a Cabinet. Then will the cry be, "To your tents, O Israel!"

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

Bywell, Nov. 22, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—The late melancholy loss of life, by the upsetting of the life-boat at Blyth, having very properly called public attention to the means of improving the life-boat, so as to prevent, as far as possible, the repetition of such disasters, I am induced to offer the following suggestion.

On the upsetting of the life-boat, the brave fellows that man her are frequently lost by the boat drifting away from them, and thereby preventing them getting hold of the rope which runs along the outside. Now, I would recommend that a small rope, about 10 or 12 feet long, should be fastened to each "thoft," with a piece of cork at the end and about the middle of each line; so that if the boat should upset, and drift away from the men, as is generally the case, the lines would stream out, and thereby give the crew the almost certainty of saving themselves, by catching hold of one of them. This is so simple an expedient, that I trust it will be adopted.

It is also frequently found, when the life-boat approaches near to a wrecked ship, that the sea, breaking round her, "tops," and breaks in such an irregular manner, that the boat cannot get close enough to enable her to get the exhausted crew on board. I would recommend that the life-boat be furnished with one of Greener's harpoon-guns,* which will throw a line with a grapnel from 150 to 200 yards. When a rope in this manner is secured to the ship, the oars can be unshipped, and the boat hauled alongside the distressed vessel, if practicable; or she can remain riding by it till more favourable circumstances occur, either by a flowing or ebbing of the tide, or the wind and sea abating. Should the stranded ship begin to break up, the boat riding under her lee might probably in such a situation pick up some of the unfortunate crew.

Another means of preserving life might be provided on board every vessel:—and this is a box of corks, with strings attached to them, similar to the pieces that are used for salmon-nets; so that when a ship is wrecked, and a communication wanted with the shore, the crew may have nothing to do but to attach a nun buoy, or empty barrel, to the end of a rope,† to which the corks must be fastened, at short distances. The wind and sea would float the barrel to the shore, and the corks supporting the rope on the water would prevent it getting entangled among the rocks or seaweed, as has been too frequently the case. By this rope, also, a boat might be materially assisted in its attempts to reach the vessel from the shore.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

Newcastle, Dec. 8, 1841. GEORGE STRAKER.

* The harpoon gun can be protected from the wet so completely as to render its use both practicable and easy.

† By unreaving braces, clewlines, &c., a length of line may be obtained to reach the shore almost under any circumstances.

THE COUNTESS OF DURHAM.

INTELLIGENCE of the death of this amiable and estimable lady reached the North of England on Sunday last, and, we need hardly add, gave rise to expressions of the deepest concern and regret in every quarter. When Lady Durham left England, only a few short weeks ago, with her family, to whose happiness every energy of her soul was devoted, she was in possession of even more than her accustomed good health. Everything seemed to promise that quietness and retirement during the winter, which, for her late lord's and her children's sake, she so much desired. But it had been otherwise decreed. In travelling from Nice towards Genoa, her ladyship unfortunately caught cold, and on reaching the latter place was seized with an attack of a feverish nature, and eventually with ulcerated sore throat, under the effects of which the noble sufferer expired. Although the ill-

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ness was of a fortnight's duration, it seems that the friends and medical attendants about Lady Durham entertained no serious apprehensions of danger, until within two days of her death. The shock, therefore, which that sad catastrophe inflicted upon her family and relatives, may be more easily imagined than described.

It is consolatory to know that the dying lady was attended by kind friends. Besides her more immediate relatives, (including Mr. Ellison, of Hebburn,) Lady William Bentinck, we are told, was most devoted in her attentions, having scarcely ever left the bed-side of the Countess, and kindly taking charge of the children, according to their mother's last request, until some member of the family should arrive. The remains will be brought to this country, and interred in the family vault in Chester-le-Street church.

Lady Durham was the eldest daughter of the present Earl and Countess Grey, and was in her 45th year, being born on the 7th of April, 1797. On the 9th of December, 1816, she was married to the late Earl of Durham (then Mr. Lambton), at Howick. She has had five children (two sons and three daughters), of whom only four are living—the eldest boy (whose beautiful portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence is so generally known and admired) having died on the 24th of September, 1831, at the age of thirteen. The present Earl, her Ladyship's fourth child, was born on the 5th of September, 1828, and is, consequently, in his fourteenth year. The eldest daughter, Lady Mary Lambton, is of age.

The late Earl afforded remarkable evidence of his attachment to and confidence in Lady Durham, by bequeathing to her the whole of his extensive property—a trust (for she always considered it as such) which she has most exemplarily fulfilled—her great and glorious aim having been to deserve the undying affections of her husband, by rendering her son worthy of his sire.

Thus a companionship which death alone could sever is by death renewed. The same tomb will soon contain the noble pair whose exemplary attachment during life has formed a theme of universal praise.

[FROM A RESPECTED CORRESPONDENT.]

Lady Durham is dead! This intelligence will impart a feeling of sorrow far beyond the circle of kindred and of friends. Thousands will forget for a moment their busy pursuits, when they hear of one so good, and so necessary to the well-being of others, having sunk into an early grave.

To the world in general, Lady Durham appeared chiefly as the widowed mother of a youthful family—as the relict of one of the master-spirits of his age, who was suddenly cut off in the mid-career of a brilliant and honourable life. She was so gentle, and retiring, and unobtrusive, that such she appeared only before the world. There is enough however even here, in conjunction with her sudden dissolution, to fill many a heart with tenderness. But those who were permitted to observe her from a nearer approach, and to mark the individuality of her character and position, know with how many affecting details this general outline was completed. Lady Durham was in fact no ordinary woman, and her position was in unison with her character. Her intellectual endowments were very distinguished. But the great charm was the sweetness with which she blended the dignity of rank, with all that is true, and simple, and generous in human nature. Nor was this all. Under this exquisite gentleness and feminine elegance of mind, there was concealed a firmness of will, an immutability of purpose, a self-devotion to the command of duty, that few could have suspected who saw her only in the scenes of ordinary life, which she adorned by the milder virtues. The last few months of her history, however, sufficiently attest the truth of what we have stated. After the death of Lord Durham, who left her in absolute possession of his immense property, she abandoned every other earthly object, that she might perpetuate his memory, and foster the health and welfare of their children. Her only ambition was to render her boy fit, in due time, to become in every respect the successor of her lamented husband. From the midst of these pious and affecting duties she has been suddenly called away. We will not pursue the thoughts which these circumstances must suggest to every mind. Life has fortunately few trials like that of such a mother, sighing adieu to her children—orphans, and unprotected in a world which she is quitting for ever.

Vateni in pace, alma beata e bella.

The members of the Gateshead Fell Reading Rooms and Library, met in the Library in the Public Rooms, on Monday evening last, (Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair,) when a considerable addition of members was made—a new Committee elected—and Mr. Davidson, the excellent Master of the Public School, appointed Secretary and Librarian. As the subscription of ordinary members is only six shillings a-year, we cannot doubt that the members will continue to increase.—Dec. 11.

Lord and Lady Howick set out yesterday, to join the orphan children of the late Earl and Countess of Durham in Italy, of whom they are to take charge. The venerable Earl and Countess Grey, although greatly overcome by the mournful and unlooked-for death of their noble daughter, have not, as yet, materially suffered in health from the painful shock communicated to their feelings by the intelligence.—Dec. 11.

Mr. Hutt, M P., will preside at the annual meeting of the Gateshead Mechanics' Institute, on Wednesday evening next; and Mr. Brady, one of the Secretaries, will bring forward the important motion of which he has given notice, viz., that a news-room be added to the institution. We trust that this motion will be carried. We may then anticipate a considerable increase in the working-class members of the institution.

A Return of the Number of Monuments erected in Westminster Abbey, at the public expense, has been published in the *Globe*, commencing with the names of General Wolfe and Lord Chatham, and including many other illustrious sons of England. Among the number we find the name of Captain Hutt, the paternal uncle of the Member for Gateshead. This gallant officer was killed in command of the *Queen*, a first rate, on "The Glorious First of June."

INVENTION OF THE TELEGRAPH.—At the lecture dedelivered by Mr. Adams, at the Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle, on Monday evening, in adverting to the history of the telegraph as a most important means of conveying intelligence between distant places, he referred to certain documents and official correspondence which fully establish the two-armed telegraph, now used by Government, to have been invented by Mr. Joseph Garnett, of Newcastle. Mr. Adams, by means of an accurate working model, explained the great ingenuity and usefulness of Mr. Garnett's telegraph, which, in some of its details, he considers to be superior to the instruments used by the Admiralty between Whitehall and Portsmouth. This invention was submitted in October, 1794, to the Duke of Richmond, then Master-General of the Ordnance, and

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to the Lords of the Admiralty in January, 1797; and Mr. Garnett at those times received official letters from the heads of these departments. The model and description were retained at the Admiralty three months, but the plan was not adopted until eighteen years afterwards, when Sir Home Popham claimed and received the honour of this invention, but which the evidence alluded to fully establishes to be due to our respected townsman. The subject was also explained by Mr. Garnett in a paper read to the Literary and Philosophical Society, 13th Oct., 1795, thus confirming the priority of his invention by the strongest evidence.—*Courant.*

CHINESE DOGGREL.

After the capture of Canton, the Chinese balladmongers began to "turn a penny" by the event. A copy of verses was hawked about the streets, with a woodcut illustration, roughly representing a steamer and a ship-of-war. This was sold for four *cash*—about a farthing of our money. We give the "poetry." The "long tails," it will be seen, are like some historians nearer home—they do not stick very closely to truth, when fiction suits their purposes better.

DESCRIPTION OF A STEAM SHIP.

They are long, upwards of thirty chang.*
They are high and broad, upwards of three chang.†
They are bound about with iron to make them strong,
And their whole hull is painted black.
They come and go like a weaver's shuttle.
To their two sides are fixed two wheels.
They use coal to make a fire.
Then she turns about like a race-horse.
They have sails of white cloth for sun and shade.
They sail whether the wind be fair or adverse.
On the ship's bow is a figure of the god of the waves.
On both stern and stern are guns which traverse all round.
Truly her appearance is enough to frighten people!
The jade-stone void‡ displayed its spiritual efficacy,‖
The stone-dragon¶ got the steamer on a shoal.¶
By this may be seen the truth of Heaven's justice!
The foreigners were unable to do anything,
Which greatly delighted the hearts of all men!

* 120 yards.——† 12 yards.——‡ Heaven.——‖ In sending bad weather.——¶ Earth.——¶ Alluding probably to the *Atalanta.*

THE ATTACK OF THE BARBARIANS.

The English barbarians raised disturbances, and rebelled against the reason of Heaven!
On the 3rd day of the 4th moon* the rebels offended† the city of Ramsa.‡
But the jade-stone void displayed its spiritual efficacy, and the stone-dragon got a ship on the shoals‖
They also ascended the river to Neisheng, but their war-ships got aground on the sands!
And the devil's soldiers got a defeat.
So matters went on to the 6th of the moon,
When the arrowsll were shot into the city!
One gun gave three cracks, and it looked as if the heavens were sending down red rain.
Our guns and powder were quite exhausted, when the country-people to the north of the city
Suddenly and valorously pressed forward to the fight!
From the top of Pakwunshun¶
The master of Heaven sent down a shower of rain!
Several hundred of the devil-foreigners were killed!
The head of their chief man was cut off, and stuck upon a pole.
His name was called Bremer!
The hearts and livers of the foreigners grew cold from fear, and they cast off their clothes and fled!
Our country people drummed up their courage, and cut them off, and massacred them at all points,
Until the whole of them were slain.
The foreign ships retired, and have now sailed far beyond the Bocca Tigris!
The Providence of Heaven could not bear their wickedness.
At that season the climate was most unhealthy,
And numbers died of the plague, all of which was caused by the anger of the gods!
Peace followed from this, and every one enjoys a life of glory
To the great delight of the people of this district.

* May 23.——† Attacked.——‡ Canton.——‖ Rockets.——¶ The hill behind Canton.

GATESHEAD MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

At the ANNUAL MEETING of the MEMBERS, held in the Library, High-street, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15, 1841, (WILLIAM HUTT, Esq., M.P., in the chair,) Mr. William Kell, one of the Secretaries, read the following

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

It has rarely fallen to the lot of a Committee to be called upon to render an account of their stewardship, with fewer details of interest or moment, than the body who are now about to lay their proceedings before you.

From year to year, the annual Report of this institution has presented one continual strain of regrets and disappointments, summed up with ardent hopes that the labours of future Committees might be crowned with more cheering results. These long-cherished anticipations have each succeeding year been doomed to disappointment; and, in strict truth, your Committee are bound to acknowledge, that any little exertion they have made to vary the monotony of such intelligence, and to render your institution more extensively valuable than it has hitherto been, has failed in producing any salutary effect. Surrounded by a densely-crowded population, and in the heart of a district which one would think peculiarly calculated to insure the success of such an undertaking, it were well to look around, and endeavour to ascertain the cause of failure, as well as to devise means for results of a more satisfactory nature. On analyzing the lists of our members, as well as those of other kindred societies, it must strike every statistical inquirer as a singular anomaly, that Mechanics' Institutes are resorted to with greater interest by *every other* class of the community than by those for whose *special* benefit such establishments were originally framed. A little reflection on the subject suggests the following queries:—

1. Is the sum charged for membership larger than the generality of mechanics are capable of paying?
2. Are the hours devoted to daily labour so many, as to incapacitate this class for the enjoyment of reading, and other literary pursuits?
3. Is the kind of reading provided by Mechanics' Institutes such as is most likely to induce our mechanics to join such societies?

These are all important considerations, and have doubtless now and then forced themselves upon the minds of those who are wont to look with interest upon the advancement of civilization and morality among their fellow-men. The pages of a Report are scarcely open to much discussion upon these questions, but they are well worthy the patient investigation of Committees appointed to the surveillance of establishments having for their object the education and moral advancement of the working classes of this country.

Several of your Committee, who have taken much interest in the Institute from its commencement, and are anxious that something should be done to procure the co-operation of the various workmen connected with the neighbouring manufactories, have thought it advisable to hazard the alteration of one of the fundamental rules of the society, so as to enable them to admit of the introduction of newspapers into their room. The details connected with such a change are complicated, and require much judicious consideration; but your Committee doubt not that their successors will be able effectually to carry out the project, should this meeting see it fit to delegate to them such an extent of power. An alteration of some of the rules will be rendered necessary by this proceeding; and this important question will be brought to your notice in a series of resolutions, which will be presently submitted for your approval or otherwise.

Many of you are doubtless aware, that, at the latter part of 1839, a resolution emanated from the Committee of this Institute, which resulted in the production of one of the most splendid and extensive Polytechnic Exhibitions which have yet been opened in this country. The proceeds from this Exhibition, in consequence of the enormous outlay attendant upon so complicated a concern, were proportionately small. Circumstances over which the Committee have had scarcely any control, have prevented an earlier adjustment of this affair; and they are forced to the conclusion, that Exhibitions on a scale of such magnitude, are too cumbrous and expensive, and withal occupy too large a portion of the time of their projectors, to admit of frequent repetition. This is much to be regretted, for there perhaps never was an undertaking more worthy of extensive patronage—and certainly never one which so richly received that meed of approbation to which its intrinsic value deservedly entitled it.

A second clause of the resolution which gave birth to this undertaking, pledged the Committee to ascertain the desirability of effecting a union among the Mechanics' Institutes of the neighbourhood, with a view to the economy of their funds in the procuring of efficient lecturers, &c. This subject has frequently occupied the attention of some of your Committee, and they have endeavoured to obtain the results of a similar union of the societies in the West Riding of Yorkshire. A careful revision of their experience affords but little encouragement to persevere in the proposed plan. The attention of your Committee has, however, by this means, been directed to an appendix to the West Riding Report for 1841, which touches exclusively upon the question of the admission of newspapers into the libraries of such institutions; and a very general feeling in favour of this proposition has been expressed among them.

The number of members connected with the institution at present is 221, being a decrease of 4 upon the number reported last year. 45 new members have been added since the last anniversary. At the date of the third Report in 1839, we number 265; so that we have suffered a detection of 44 since that period. Notwithstanding this reduction in our ranks, there still remain a considerable number who resort to the library for the purpose of reading or procuring books. Upwards of 4,370 volumes have been taken out on loan since our last Report.

It is a source of much regret to the Committee, that they cannot congratulate the society on the state of its funds. A reference to the Treasurer's accounts will show, that the receipts have been insufficient to meet the year's expenditure, and the rent for the year, as well as a few other accounts, remain unpaid. A falling-off will be seen to have taken place in the amount received for subscriptions. Upon this subject, the Committee are decidedly of opinion that the rule under which subscriptions may be paid by quarterly instalments, is extremely prejudicial. It causes many members gradually and unintentionally to get into

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arrear; and where the member is apprized of the fact, it very frequently produces doubt and dissatisfaction, and too often leads to secession. It can be clearly shown that *large sums* (and, the Committee have no doubt, *many members*) have been lost to the society from this cause; and the Committee strongly recommend, that the rule should be altered, and at least one-half year's subscription made payable in advance. The Committee are however gratified in being able to state, that the sum of £150, in part of this society's third-share of the profits of the late Polytechnic Exhibition, has been received, and is deposited with Messrs. Lambton & Co., of Newcastle, at bank-interest. The final winding up of the accounts of the Polytechnic Society, has been hitherto delayed by the vexatious law-proceedings carried on against it on behalf of the Socialist Society. It is hoped that little more delay will arise from this cause, and that the balance of this society's share may be soon expected. This balance, it is believed, will be about £80, making the sum acquired by the society amount to about £230. In what way this sum must be appropriated will be for the members, in general meeting, to determine. The Committee, however, strongly urge that this sum ought not to be infringed upon, by applying it to any of the ordinary items of yearly expenditure, but that its appropriation should be to some purpose that will be permanently beneficial to the Institute.

In accordance with the recommendation of the last general meeting, your Committee, immediately after their appointment, made a second application to the Home Office for a copy of the National Records for the use of the library; and although considerable delay occurred in the matter, yet, through the active and unceasing co-operation of your respected President, the Committee have succeeded in procuring copies of all those at present forthcoming: (a large proportion are out of print). The Society are deeply indebted to William Hutt, Esq., for the zeal which he has thus evinced in endeavouring to promote their interests. They have also to acknowledge their obligations for the loan of a large number of valuable Parliamentary papers, which he has deposited in the library.

Another topic alluded to in the last Report, was the offering of prizes for essays on certain subjects enumerated in a previous resolution of the Committee. This idea was immediately carried out, and publicity given to the subjects. One essay, and one only, has been the result. This was read at the monthly meeting in November. The subject of this paper was the "Comparative Anatomy of Birds;" and although your Committee would have felt themselves justified, under such circumstances, in withholding their gratuity, had the essay been adjudged unworthy of such reward, yet they are glad to observe that this paper possesses considerable merit, and betrays much careful investigation and research. The Committee have accordingly awarded the author, Mr. Tuffen West, the prize of £3.

Your Committee had fondly hoped that the winter evenings of last year would have been enlivened by several courses of lectures, which were all but promised to their predecessors in office. After many fruitless attempts to come to terms with the gentlemen alluded to in the last Report, the project was abandoned. Dr. Glover, however, very kindly favoured the institution with two lectures on Combustion and Respiration, which proved attractive, and were well attended. The Committee are so duly sensible of the importance of judiciously selected courses of lectures to the success of Mechanics' Institutes, that they cannot but urge their successors to continued perseverance in so desirable an object.

In closing their labours for the year, the Committee deplore the recent death of the founder and most indefatigable supporter of Mechanics' Institutions, Dr. Birkbeck. The remarkable usefulness, and pure benevolence, which characterized the career of this eminent individual, establish his claim to be numbered by the historian hereafter among those who have mainly contributed to give that impulse to the popular mind, that tone to popular sentiment, which renders the present age one of the most memorable in the annals of the human race. The actions of Dr. Birkbeck appeal to no party, to no creed. They find their reward in the thirst for knowledge, and eagerness of inquiry, which elevate men above much that is sordid and debasing, and qualify them for the discharge of those more exalted and refined duties, which, as good citizens, they are called upon to perform. Laurels more enduring cannot grace the tomb of Birkbeck, than the grateful remembrance of the humble artizan, and the fervent desire which must warm every enlightened and philanthropic statesman, to follow the footsteps of one who, though now consigned to the silent tomb, yet loudly calls upon us all to carry forward and perfect those splendid projects which he so nobly advocated.

Resolved unanimously.—

1. That the Report of the Committee, now read, be received and adopted.

2. That the thanks of the members be given to the Officers and Committee of the past year, for the services which they have rendered to the institution; and more especially to Mr. Swinburne, the Treasurer, and Messrs. William Kell and Henry Brady, the Secretaries, whose resignation of office is deeply regretted.

3. That it is expedient and desirable to combine the advantages of a Newsroom, with those at present afforded by the Mechanics' Institute. That, with this view, the latter clauses of Rule 22 be expunged, and so amended as to admit of the application of a portion of the funds of the institution to the purchase of newspapers. That a sum, not exceeding £6, be applied to this purpose each year. That the Committee be empowered to make such arrangements for the carrying out of the objects contemplated, as they may deem conducive to the benefit of this society.

4. That, in future, the subscriptions be paid in advance, by half-yearly instalments.

5. That the thanks of this meeting be given to William Hutt, Esq., for his kindness in presiding on the present occasion, and for his services in the chair.

THE MATCHMAKERS' LAMENT.

Alas! alas! to what a pass we *matchless* coves have come!
We're doom'd to want, for now we can't pick up an honest crumb.
These *Congrevites*, with phosphorus lights, have dish'd our brimstone trade:
A poor old match they've dubb'd Old Scratch, and thrown us in the shade.
Vile *Lucifers* each step one stirs in every shop are cramm'd:
Their hideous forms, in Shakspeare terms, appear "like goblins damn'd."
We're dish'd and done, our race is run, our taper's burning dim—
In fact it's out, for who can doubt that Fate has doused our glim.
D——d phosphorus has ruin'd us, and laid us on our backs:
We're quite capsized, and victimized, by vile pretending quacks.
Ah! once, ods zounds! we'd lots of "browns," for Fortune favoured us;
But now our days, in Latin phrase, have really reached "ne plus."
Bereft of mags, we're clothed in rags:—nay, scarce a rag to wear:
Which proves quite clear our living here is most infern'lly bare.
Fully many a time, with thoughts sublime, we jolly trumps have met,
With joy and mirth, in some snug berth, and swigg'd our heavy wet.
Each merry boy, with heartfelt joy, push'd round the foaming tipple:
With feelings proud we roar'd aloud—"Go it now, you cripple!"
Our jovial corps would laugh and roar, and seldom did we wrangle:
If strife was made, we slily said, "Has your mother sold her mangle?"
An empty boast we'd gently roast; for when we smelt the rat,
We cried, "My chum! it's all a hum! 'don't cut it quite so fat.'"
Quite unabash'd each great unwash'd would give his feelings scope:
With thumb on snout, we bellowed out, "How are ye off for soap?"
We snuff'd and smoked, and talked and joked, and good-will reign'd throughout:
The welkin rung when we all sung—"Does your mother know you're out?"
"All round my hat," "The bacon's fat," "Away with melancholy,"
We roar'd "like bricks," then "cut our sticks," and closed with "Nix my dolly."
But now we're down, and "quite done brown:" no more we'll sing these lays:
We even can't most feebly chant "The light of other days."
We sob and sigh, and pipe our eye, at our unhappy lot:
With keen regret we fume and fret that brimstone's gone to pot.
Its glorious worth was once blazed forth in every land and clime:
It gave us health, as well as wealth, and even punish'd crime:
Its wondrous deeds all praise exceeds—miraculous feats it's done:
Cutaneous bumps and glandular lumps it swept away like fun.
Our "brither Scots" may bless their lots, and sing its lasting fame;
For poor and rich are freed from sore—their once great national shame.
In ancient days, so Moses says, (from Holy Writ I borrow,)
It baked like buns the wicked sons of Sodom and Gomorrah.
And down below, full well we know, it makes the rascals grin:
Without its use, why how the deuce could Satan punish sin?
Now sin may spread, and rear its head, and every lawless cub
May live by crime for mere pastime, and laugh at Beelzebub.
In fact he's lost, to his sad cost, an everlasting friend;
For thief and prig wont care a fig about their latter end.
Ah! thus we see the land will be with sinners overrun:
Great brimstone's doom proclaims with gloom the world is quite undone.

Tweed Bank.—*Berwick, Monday, Dec.* 6.—A deep gloom was this morning thrown over the town of Berwick, by the circulation of a rumour that the Tweed Bank (Messrs. Batson, Berry, & Co.'s) had failed. It received confirmation in the course of the forenoon in a handbill circulated by the Bank, to the effect that "owing to unavoidable circumstances they had

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been obliged to suspend payment." In reference to the amount of obligations and assets, the public are as yet totally in the dark; but from the high character of the Bank, and of its resident partners, great confidence existed; and we have heard that the ramifications of its business are very numerous, and in some instances of high amount. The pressure is only beginning, and the prospect to trade and to private parties is looked to with fear and trembling. A statement from the parties will probably take place early, of which you shall be advised.——*Tuesday.*—The knowledge of instances of suffering is still extending, and forms the only topic of public talk. Nearly the whole business of the town and neighbourhood was done in the Tweed Bank, and the loss is proportionate. Rumours are assuming a definite shape. The liabilities are reported as approaching £200,000, but it is thought the assets of the parties will make a fair set-off. The pressure is said to have come from the Newcastle Branch, and to be caused by the large payments of a party having been applied to extensive and unsuccessful speculations. A flat is expected to issue immediately, one of the largest creditors here having been called in to strike the dooquet. Some persons were in the country yesterday immediately after the rumour began, endeavouring to pass notes—and in one or two instances successfully. One man passed two £5 notes under a false name; but he was to-day identified, and made to repay. The consternation is still strong and general, but nothing authentic has reached the mass of the creditors or the public; and, of course, no statement will be given until the bankruptcy. Public companies and parties are opening accounts with the Branch of the North of England, which is standing firm. A great run was made at the Savings' Bank last night. The North of England offered their assistance, and the depositors' minds have been calmed.——*Wednesday.*—It is strange that whilst public confidence remained unabated here, up to the moment of failure, rumours of embarrassment reached London in the end of last week. It is also said that at least one of the partners, in whom the public have greatest confidence here, remained in ignorance of the state of matters up to the last. Deposits were freely made all Saturday. It is now quite confidently stated that the cause of rupture was the Newcastle agency. The business of the party alluded to above was sufficient for one clerk, and the funds were swallowed up by the speculations. A meeting of the merchants and capitalists was held to-day on requisition, (the Mayor in the chair,) when it was unanimously resolved to give every facility to the operations of the North of England Bank, by accepting their notes in payment without hesitation, and thus exhibiting confidence. It was stated that the Directors had resolved to pay their notes here, and had sent specie for the purpose. Two of the Directors have arrived to-day, to manage matters under the increasing business. This has done a great deal to forward the business of the town, and all parties applying at the office have been satisfied. We have heard the conduct of the North of England Branch generally and highly praised by commercial people at this crisis. Opinions as to the obligations and assets of the Tweed Bank remain the same.——*Thursday.*—Nothing further of note has transpired. The business of the town has received great facilities through the North of England. No news of the flat here yet. The creditors are beginning to assume more confidence, and several with whom we have conversed have expressed fair hopes. The complete security of the public, prior to the suspension of payment, continues to be wondered at, when it is known that parties at a distance were possessed of rumours, and that intimations of the dishonour of the Bank's acceptances must have reached here on Friday evening. By next week decisive business will have commenced, and, it is hoped, will relieve the anxiety of many a one whose all depends on the issue.

The members of the Gateshead Mechanics' Institute held their fifth anniversary on Wednesday, Dec. 15, (William Hutt, Esq., M.P., in the chair,) when there was a crowded attendance, including many ladies. The Committee's Report appears in our first page. Its adoption was moved by Mr. Ald. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Ald. Pollock, and unanimously carried. The usual vote of thanks was given to the Officers and Committee, coupled with expressions of regret that Mr. Swinburne, the Treasurer, and Messrs. Kell and Brady, the Secretaries, had felt it necessary, from the pressure of their daily avocations, to retire from office. This resolution having been suitably acknowledged, Mr. Brady brought forward his motion for the addition of a newsroom to the institution. It was proposed, he said, to make the experiment on a limited scale, that there might be no danger of materially impairing the funds of the institution; and with this view he suggested that papers might be purchased economically at the ensuing sale in the Central Exchange, Newcastle. In support of his motion, Mr. Brady read an appendix to the last Report of the West Riding Mechanics' Institutes, ably advocating the introduction of newspapers. Mr. W. L. Harle seconded the motion, and Mr. R. H. Haggie promised the institution a donation of newspapers. The motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ald. Brockett moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hutt, which was seconded by Mr. Kell, and carried by acclamation. Mr. Hutt, in returning thanks, stated that it was his intention to present the institution with a copy of the Parliamentary papers of each session, and of every public Act that was passed. (Applause.) The Committee's Report, he observed, spoke of the papers which he had presented as a loan; but although he had reserved to himself the privilege of consulting them at pleasure, he had no idea of resuming possession of them at any future time. (Applause.) The chair having been vacated, the voting papers were scrutinized, when it was found that the following gentlemen had been elected:—

PRESIDENT.

William Hutt, Esq., M.P.....43

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

W. H. Brockett, Esq.	30	Thomas Swinburne, Esq	22
James Pollock, Esq.	26	Henry Brady, Esq	21
William Kell, Esq.	25	Hon. H. T. Liddell, M.P.	20
Rev. J. Davies	23	John Barras, Esq	20

SECRETARIES.

Mr. T. H. Apedaile	32	Mr. R. Counsellor	30

TREASURER.

Mr. Cornelius Garbutt 33

COMMITTEE.

Mr. G. Bell	37	Mr. J. Fawcett	20
Mr. F. P. Ioun	30	Mr. C. F. Springmann	17
Mr. Joseph Clephan	29	Mr. H. R. Reed	17
Mr. William Hedley	28	Mr. G. Pringle	17
Mr. G. S. Dixon	28	Mr. B. Matchitt	16
Mr. R. Young	27	Dr. R. Elliot	16
Mr. W. Bowlt	24	Mr. J. Parker	16
Mr. J. Tinniswood	23	Mr. G. J. Kenmir	13
Mr. J. F. Brett	23	Mr. John Colman	13

Mr. Tuffen West, a pupil with Mr. Brady, of this borough, surgeon, has received a premium of £3 from the Mechanics' Institute, for an essay on the "Comparative Anatomy of Birds."

THE GATESHEAD FELL PUBLIC ROOMS.—A ball, in aid of these rooms, was held in the large hall of the institution, on Thursday, Dec, 16, and was attended by about 150 ladies and gentlemen, of the first respectability in the neighbourhood. The Stewards on the occasion were John Grace and Thomas Sowerby, Esqrs., and the arrangements made by the Committees (for there were two, a party of ladies having kindly undertaken the tea-arrangements,) were in every respect excellent, and elicited the warmest thanks from the delighted company. The ball was opened by Mr Thomas Sowerby and Mrs. John Grace; and dancing, ably assisted by Mr. Bagnall and his companions of the orchestra, was kept up until an early hour. The proceeds, we expect, will materially contribute to the reduction of the liabilities still attaching to the rooms.

The *New Farmers' Journal*, on the 6th inst., contained the following notice, (which escaped our eye in glancing over that paper, or, of course, it would have appeared in the *Observer* of the 11th inst.):—

We thank "A NORTHUMBRIAN" for directing our attention to Mr. Samuel Donkin's curious advertisement, dated "Bywell, Nov. 22, 1841," which appears in the *Gateshead Observer;* and, for the information of all whom it may concern, we have to state that the "Mr. Robins," therein alluded to as the "Editor" of this journal, is merely employed in a very subordinate capacity in our publishing department—a useful servant to the establishment, albeit it is possible that his zeal may occasionally outrun his discretion. Upon Mr. Donkin's offensive personalities towards Mr. Bates, of Kirkleavington, we shall only observe, that, to say the least of them, they are in wretched taste, and of a character altogether foreign to the conduct of this journal. It is our invariable rule to deal with *opinions*, and *not* the *persons* who profess them. As regards Mr. Donkin's insinuation relative to our circulation, we can afford to indulge in a hearty laugh at it; being decided adherents to the Napoleon aphorism, that "*il n'y a que le vertie qui blesse,*" and referring him of Bywell to the stamp office returns for infallible proof of our increased, and rapidly-increasing, prosperity. Although by no

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means litigiously disposed, Mr. Donkin's malicious assertion, that the *New Farmers' Journal* is edited by a person such as he describes, and possessing no claim whatever to literary ability, shall be submitted to "counsel learned in the law," in whose hands we purpose leaving any discussion on that point. Entertaining no ill-feeling towards the *Gateshead Observer*, we would beg to suggest to its conductor that the insertion of this notice is no more than a bare matter of justice to us.

Mr. Donkin is so well able to defend himself, that we have no need to take up the cudgels in his behalf. We may, however, remind our Conservative contemporary, that "his invariable rule to deal with opinions, and not the persons who profess them," is an "*invariable* rule" with occasional *exceptions*; for, unless our memory be treacherous, the *Farmers' Journal*, in commencing this controversy with Mr. Donkin, was so far from confining itself to his "opinions," that even his very *name* was held up to ridicule! Our friend should not "play, at bowls," if he cannot endure "rubbers." As for Mr. Bates he is the last man in the world that should complain of personalities.

The Mayor of Gateshead received an official communication on Monday, stating that Sir James Graham had recommended to the Lord Chancellor the addition of the following gentlemen to the commission of the peace in our borough:—Charles Bertram, merchant; John Grace, jun., coal-owner; Perceval Jenkins, Esq.; Francis Stanley, iron-founder; Robert Smith Surtees, Esq.; and Ralph Wake, Esq. These are all respectable gentlemen, but of Tory politics, and we have felt called upon to remark, in another column, on the manner of their appointment. The *Northern Times*, after giving a list of our new justices, observes:—

"When we read these names, the only subject for surprise or comment is, that the above-named gentlemen were not appointed before. *Nothing but the grossest spirit of faction could have dictated their exclusion from the commission.*"

But, in the very next sentence, our contemporary furnishes us with a piece of information, directly contradicting his own assertion. He says:—

"Since writing the above, we have heard with the greatest regret that R. S. Surtees, Esq., will be unable to qualify, as *his residence is beyond the prescribed distance from the borough.*"

So that something else than the "spirit of faction" has to do with the exclusion of Mr. Surtees, at least; and neither were Messrs. Stanley, Perkins, and Grace, resident within the "prescribed distance," when the present Gateshead Magistrates were appointed.

"The Phrenological Almanack" for 1842, contains an "Introduction to Phrenology," written by Mr. Alexander Falkner, of Newcastle.

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p GEORGE SOWERBY, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
		Graham, E.	Robson, R.
p Barras, John	p Cummins, T.	p Hymers, Jas.	p Robson, D.
p Brockett, W. H.	p Davis, R.	Hymers, Wm.	p Smith, James
p Hall, Michael	Dunn, Charles	p Kenmir, Wm.	p Sowerby, T.
p Pollock, James	Fairbairn, J.	p Potts, John	p Swan, Walker
p Wilson, Thos.	p Forster, S.	p Revely, T.	p Wylam, Ralph
			p Wilson, J. R.

[Those marked p were present.]

THE town-council met on Wednesday, December 15, when much routine business was transacted.

The Mayor laid before the meeting a letter which he had received from the Home Office, as follows:—

Whitehall, Dec. 10, 1841.

SIR,—I am directed, by Secretary Sir James Graham, to inform you that he has recommended to the Lord Chancellor that the names of Charles Bertram, merchant, John Grace, jun., coalowner, Perceval Perkins, Esq., Francis Stanley, iron manufacturer, Robert Smith Surtees, Esq., and Ralph Wake, Esq., should be inserted in the Commission of the Peace for the borough of Gateshead.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

The Mayor of Gateshead. S. M. PHILLIPPS.

The poundage for the collection of the Street Act Assessment, and the Lamp and Watch Cess, after much discussion, was fixed at 5d.; and Mr. SWAN proposed that Mr. Pearse should be continued in the office of collector. Mr. BROCKETT, as an amendment, moved that Mr. Fairs be associated with Mr. Pearse; and Mr. KENMIR having seconded the amendment, it was carried. [Mr. Pearse was called in, and made acquainted with the decision. He then declined to accept the office, and retired.] Mr. BROCKETT moved that Mr. Mould, of the Turk's Head, be associated with Mr. Fairs. Seconded by Mr. J. HYMERS, and carried.

A deputation was received from the High Level Bridge Committee, consisting of Mr. Foot, barrister, Mr. T. Swinburne, solicitor, Mr. B. Green, architect, and Mr. C. J. Pearson, builder. Mr. Foot addressed the town-council on the subject of the proposed bridge, and pointed out its advantages, especially to the borough of Gateshead; and Mr. Green exhibited and explained the plans. The deputation then retired; after which, the project was referred to a committee, consisting of the Mayor, Alderman Brockett, and Councillors T. Sowerby, J. Potts, J. R. Wilson, J. Smith, D. Robson, W. Swan, and T. Revely. Mr. KENMIR suggested that some means should be taken by the committee to ascertain the sentiments of the inhabitants, and they were instructed to act upon this suggestion.

The question next arose of whether Mr. Fairbairn, now a non-resident, had ceased to be a member of the Council. Mr. KENMIR was of opinion the seat was vacant, and moved that there be an election in the West Ward, to supply the vacancy. Mr. W. SWAN seconded the motion. Mr. BROCKETT thought that the opinion of counsel should be taken, as the question was doubtful: he would move, as an amendment, that the Town Clerk be instructed to take the opinion of the Attorney General. Mr. KENMIR observed, that he had no objection to Mr. Brockett's proposal: he was opposed to unnecessary delay, but neither did he wish to be in too great a hurry. And if Mr. Swan had no objection, he would withdraw his motion. Mr. SWAN concurred, and Mr. Brockett's motion was carried.

Aldermen Pollock and Brockett, and Councillors Revely, Swan, and Wilson, were appointed a Parliamentary Committee, to watch the progress of Bills affecting the interests of the borough.

The proceedings of the Railway and Encroachment Committee were brought under the consideration of the meeting. The most important fact upon the minutes was the plea of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company, touching the Pothouse watering-place, viz., that they had appropriated nothing that belonged to the public of Gateshead, but, on the contrary, had conferred upon them many advantages. The Town Clerk was instructed, on the motion of Mr. BROCKETT, seconded by Mr. HALL, to advise the Council, at their next meeting, as to the proper mode of proceeding at law to establish the rights of the inhabitants.

Mr. POTTS moved the suspension of the standing orders, that he might bring forward a motion on the subject of the new magisterial appointments. [Agreed to.] The motion was to this effect:—That the Council, in the first place, disapproved of the manner of these appointments, the Home Secretary having made them without consulting any of the responsible authorities of the borough; and, in the second place, they considered the additions altogether uncalled-for, the present number of magistrates being sufficient, and no complaint having been made of the manner in which they had discharged their duties. Mr. FORSTER seconded the motion. Mr. KENMIR was of opinion that the Council should not be called upon, without previous notice, to pass so important a motion. He was quite ready to admit that there were no complaints against the present magistrates. They were gentlemen of ability and integrity, and had diligently performed their duties. Since the Municipal Act had passed, there had not been a single complaint against the magistrates—far from it: the business had been much better done than it was before the passing of the Act. Still, he did not think that Mr. Potts's motion should be passed without time for consideration. Mr. POTTS replied, that he was perfectly willing to withdraw his motion, if the present meeting were adjourned to an early day; and it was finally resolved to take it into consideration on Wednesday next.

Mr. REVELY submitted a plan for the improvement of the borough, and of its revenues. He proposed to permit the owners of property in certain parts of High-street, above the railway-bridge, to erect a single "story" in front of their houses, on the patches now occupied (in many cases) by unsightly mounds of earth and stone. A pathway to be left 9 or 10 feet wide, and the newly-erected stores to be built on a prescribed plan, and to have neat iron palisading on the roof. The owners of the houses to pay an annual ground-rent, by which he expected to realize a revenue of from £150 to £200 per annum. Mr. Revely exhibited a plan or elevation of the proposed improvement, (prepared by Mr. C. J. Pearson,) and gave notice of a motion for Wednesday next, Dec. 22; to which day the meeting was then adjourned.

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NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE SAVINGS' BANK,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 20TH NOV., 1841.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE SAVINGS' BANK, ESTABLISHED AT NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, IN THE COUNTY OF THE SAME.

Drs. CHARGE. *In the year ending 20th November, 1841.*				Crs. DISCHARGE. *In the year ending 20th November, 1841.*					
To balance due on the 20th November, 1840, including interest, as per last return, ...	£209,543	9	2	By sums actually paid to depositors in money, including interest, within the year ending 20th November, 1841				£47,834	10 4
To sums received of depositors within the year ending 20th November, 1841.....	45,942	7	8	By sums actually paid for management within the said year, viz.:— Salaries, Insurance, Taxes, Bankers' Commission, Coals, &c.				516	11 8
To interest on monies invested with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, viz.:—				Balance on 20th November, 1841:—					
Receipt *B*, dated 21st May, 1841	3,891	6	4	Balance on the General Account invested with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, including Interest, on the 20th Nov., 1841	£209,338	14	3		
Receipt *B*, dated 21st Nov., 1841	3,937	15	10	Ditto, on Account of separate Surplus Fund invested with the said Commissioners	4,456	15	2		
To interest on sums drawn for by the Trustees, upon the Commissioners, within the said year	91	4	4	Ditto, in the hands of Northumberland and Durham District Banking Company, which fact is hereby certified by us, Charles Henry Cooke, Treasurer, and Robert Boyd, Director of the District Bank..	1,139	11	11	214,985 (A)	1 4
	£263,336	3	4					£263,336	3 4

The rate of annual interest allowed to the depositors is £3 6s. 8d. per cent., with an additional rate of annual interest of one shilling and eightpence per cent., pursuant to the rules of this bank.

The names of the Treasurer and Officers, who have given security, are—Charles Henry Cooke, Esq., Treasurer, Five Hundred Pounds; Mr. Joseph Armstrong, Cashier, One Hundred Pounds; and Mr. George Mitchell Masterton, Actuary, One Hundred Pounds. The bonds are entered into with the Clerk of the Peace, John Clayton, Esq., with whom they are deposited. The foregoing account was accompanied by the following statement:—

The balance due on the 20th November, 1841, brought forward.....£214,985 1 4 (A)

Number of Depositors.		Total Amount of each Class.			
2498	whose respective balances on the 20th November, 1841, (including interest,) did not exceed £20 each	£20,068	10	2	
1842	ditto were above £20, and not exceeding £50 each.....	56,817	14	0	
801	ditto were above £50, and not exceeding £100 each	54,893	5	3	
274	ditto were above £100, and not exceeding £150 each.....	33,045	13	1	
152	ditto were above £150, and not exceeding £200	25,439	9	1	
43	ditto (exceeding £200).....	10,447	14	9	
5610	Total number of depositors.....	200,707	6	4	
33	Charitable Societies	1,715	18	0	
75	Friendly Societies.....	6,873	2	2	
5718	Total number of accounts	209,296	6	6	
	Balance invested with the Commissioners on the separate Surplus Fund Account on the 20th November, as per aforegoing account	4,456	15	2	Deduct
					213,768 1 8
	Surplus accrued in the year ending November, 1841				1,231 19 8
	Deduct portion thereof reserved to meet current expenses, as directed per 9 Geo. IV., c. 92, sec. 23				581 19 8
	Actual amount of surplus remaining on 20th November, 1841, accrued within the said year, to be carried to the separate Surplus Fund Account				(B) £650 0 0

We do hereby certify to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, that the aforegoing is a true account; and that the above actual amount of Surplus Fund, or increased stock of the said Savings' Bank (marked B), which has occurred in the year ending 20th November, 1841, is to be discharged from our General Account, and carried to the "*Separate Surplus Fund Account*," belonging to the said bank, for the future purposes of the institution, pursuant to 9 Geo. IV., c. 92, sec. 23. And we further certify that a duplicate of this statement, accompanied by a list of the Trustees and Managers of the above institution, is publicly affixed in the office or place where the deposits of the above Savings' Bank are usually received, for the information of all persons making deposits therein.—Witness our hands this 21st day of December, 1841.

MATTHEW PLUMMER, WILLIAM CHAPMAN, } Auditors.

Witness—GEORGE MITCHELL MASTERTON, Actuary.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

TRUSTEES.

Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart.	The Recorder of Newcastle.	T. Fenwick, Esq.	Ben. J. Sorsbie, Esq.
Cuthbert Ellison, Esq.	The Vicar of Newcastle.	William Boyd, Esq.	Joseph Lamb, Esq.
The Mayor of Newcastle.	The Rector of Gateshead.	William Woods, Esq.	John Cookson, Jun. Esq.

TREASURER.

Charles Henry Cooke, Esq.

SECRETARY.

John Bulman, Esq.

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AUDITORS.

M. Anderson, Esq.	Joseph Crawhall, Esq.
M. Plummer, Esq.	William Chapman, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. John Fenwick,	Rev. R. Green, A.M.	Mr. George Walters,	Mr. Thomas Dunn,
M. Joseph Clark,	Mr. Andrew Gray,	Mr. M. Wheatley, Jun.	Mr. Joseph Hedley,
Mr. E. Charnley,	Mr. T. R. Batson,	Mr. J. B. Falconar,	Rev. Henry Barrett, M.A.
Mr. James Finlay,	Mr. Wm. Beaumont,	Mr. G. Bargate,	Mr. Edward Jackson,
Mr. Jonathan Priestman,	Mr. John Richardson,	Mr. James Snape,	Mr. Robert Airey,
Mr. W. S. Batson,	Mr. David Akenhead,	Rev. T. White, A.B.	Mr. Robert Walters.

OFFICERS RECEIVING SALARIES.

Mr. Joseph Armstrong, Cashier. | Mr. George Mitchell Masterton, Actuary. | Mr. Ralph Wood, Clerk.

MEETING OF BOROUGHHOLDERS AND FREEMEN.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Boroughholders and Freemen of Gateshead, was held in the Anchorage School, on Tuesday, Dec. 21. There were present—Messrs. W. Kenmir (Chairman), T. Swinburne, W. Kell, Joshua Greene, J. Davie, John Lister, sen., John Lister, jun., Robert Lister, W. Hymers, James Hymers, Thomas Glaholm, Henry Hind, R. Wylam, J. Honeyman, G. Hudspeth, M. Hobson, Joseph Price, T. Cummins, Joseph Robson, Charles Pearson, G. Watson, W. Douglass, C. Innis, F. Walker, and T. H. Scott.

The accounts of the Stewards were presented, showing a balance of £212 2s. 10½d. in their hands.

Mr. JAMES HYMERS requested that the accounts might be read. Mr. JOSHUA GREENE objected, on account of the trouble, and as any person might see the books. The accounts were then read.

Mr. HUDSPETH said that the way the money-matters were conducted was far from satisfactory, and he therefore moved that in future the money be paid (as soon as received) into a bank. Mr. PRICE concurred in this opinion, and seconded the motion. Mr. KELL approved of Mr. Hudspeth's suggestion. Mr. W. HYMERS objected, and said, as he intended to move for the division of the money, a bank would be unnecessary. The motion was then put, and negatived by 8 to 6.

Mr. HUDSPETH moved that £20 be distributed amongst the poor at this inclement season, which Mr. PRICE seconded. Mr. PEARSON opposed the motion, preferring that the Boroughholders should dispose of their individual shares in charity, if they thought proper. Mr. JAMES HYMERS said that many precedents existed of votes of money for charitable purposes. Mr. W. HYMERS moved, as an amendment, that the money be divided, as soon as sufficient should be in hand to afford £2 to each Boroughholder and Freeman. Mr. H. HIND seconded the amendment, and it was carried by a large majority.

Mr. PRICE wished to know about the bag of money that was said to have been lost. Mr. SWINBURNE said that security had been given, in the shape of a promissory note, by Mr. T. H. Scott, for the money that he was deficient in. Mr. JOSHUA GREENE thought the promissory note was not a sufficient security. It had been much talked about: an additional name, he considered, should have been obtained to the note, or else a security on the defaulter's property. Mr. SCOTT said he had no objection to give a security on his property. Mr. KELL thought that money, and not a mortgage, was what was wanted. Mr. W. HYMERS referred to a paragraph in the *Observer*, headed "Davie's Locker," which, in its conclusion, he said, went to advise the defaulter to be a rogue, and keep the money. He (Mr. H.) was not afraid of Mr. Scott's dishonouring the bill. Mr. WYLAM advised Mr. Greene not to press for further security; to which Mr. G. complied.

Mr. HONEYMAN said the way things were being carried on was so very unsatisfactory, that he intended to move that an Act of Parliament be applied for, to authorize the sale of the property, and that a committee be appointed accordingly, to draw up an Act. Mr. SWINBURNE said it was too late now to apply to Parliament for the ensuing session, certain notices being required which could not now be given. Mr. KELL confirmed Mr. Swinburne's remark. Mr. HONEYMAN then said he would bring forward the motion at the next meeting, and requested that the summonses should apprize the Boroughholders of his intention, and contain a copy of his intended motion.

Mr. JOSHUA GREENE thought they should not go away without doing something for the soup-kitchen; and he moved, therefore, that £5 be given to it, which was seconded by Mr. Glaholm. Mr. PEARSON opposed the motion—the soup was not generally distributed in a satisfactory manner, and he thought individual charity was better than voting it in this way. The motion was then carried, Mr. P. being the only dissentient.

Mr. SWINBURNE said the Trustees were desirous of instructions how to proceed with respect to Messrs. Thomas Newton and Samuel Softley, who had each purchased a lot of property of the Trustees, and had paid a deposit thereon—one £50, the other £20—but had refused to complete their purchases, having been legally advised that the Trustees could not compel them to do so, on account of the title; and the parties had therefore demanded their deposits to be returned, and threatened to have recourse to legal measures, should they be refused. Mr. S. said he had seen the "opinion," and he thought it a fair one. Mr. JAMES HYMERS inquired who held the money deposited? Mr. SWINBURNE said—The Trustees, not the Stewards. Mr. W. HYMERS said he had no fear about it—he thought nothing need be done, as the parties would most likely come to, before long. Many properties had been sold before, and the titles were considered good; and the sales had been ordered by a smaller number of Boroughholders than had sanctioned the present ones. He read a list of properties so sold. Mr. KELL said that the purchasers in those cases were willing ones: still, the title was as defective, and might have been questioned, just as these were; and Cotfield House, for instance, had been sold, on this account, for half its value. Mr. SWINBURNE said certainly the title was not a marketable one. Mr. JAMES HYMERS said he took it that Mr. Swinburne was the legal adviser of the Trustees, and he doubted not good advice would be given. Mr. SWINBURNE said he certainly would give his advice, should it be asked. The meeting then dissolved.

[Mr. William Hymers, if our report be correct, accuses us of advising or prompting a Boroughholder, and a servant of the Boroughholders, to act dishonestly. It would not be respectful to ourselves to reply to so scandalous a charge. Whether we, or Mr. William Hymers, be the most likely to give dishonest counsel to Boroughholders, we are content that the public hould decide.—ED. G. O.]

THE GATESHEAD TOWN COUNCIL.

p GEORGE SOWERBY, Esq., Mayor.

ALDERMEN.	COUNCILLORS.		
		Graham, E.	Robson, R.
Barras, John	*p* Cummins, T.	*p* Hymers, Jas.	Robson, D.
p Brockett, W. H.	*p* Davis, R.	*p* Hymers, Wm.	*p* Smith, James
Hall, Michael	Dunn, Charles	*p* Kenmir, Wm.	*p* Sowerby, T.
p Pollock, James	Fairbairn, J.	*p* Potts, John	*p* Swan, Walker
p Wilson, Thos.	*p* Forster, S.	*p* Revely, T.	*p* Wylam, Ralph
			p Wilson, J. R.

[Those marked *p* were present.]

THE town-council met on Wednesday, Dec. 22, by adjournment, in the town-hall, Oakwellgate, at 12 o'clock.

Mr. REVELY brought forward his motion on the improvement of the High-street. There were, he observed, many misconceptions abroad, as to the project which he had brought before the Council on the 15th inst. Some had got it into their heads that every house in the High-street was to have a one-story building placed in front of it, by persons permitted to do so by the Council—which was manifestly absurd. Others had got an opinion that the ground in front of their properties belonged to themselves, and that they might build upon it without payment of a ground-rent; while some believed, that if they must pay a ground-rent, it would be very small. There were others, again, who were willing to pay any reasonable rent that might be fixed by the Council. In order that there might be no misunderstanding in the public mind, he would move that the matter be referred to a committee, who would report to the Council, and thus the whole question would be brought before the inhabitants in a clear and definite shape. The gentlemen

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whom he would name were—The Mayor, Mr. Ald. Pollock, Mr. Ald. Brockett, Mr. Kenmir, Mr. W. Hymers, Mr. J. R. Wilson, and their humble servant.

Mr. WALKER SWAN seconded the motion.

The TOWN CLERK read a case submitted to Mr. Hopper Williamson in 1819, as well as Mr. W.'s opinion thereon, which was decidedly in favour of the property of the footpaths being vested in the Commissioners of the Street Act.

There was then a discussion, during which Mr. W. HYMERS and Mr. KENMIR suggested that the inquiry should be placed in the hands of the Watch Committee; because to that body was entrusted the working of the Street Act, and the sites in question were vested in the Street Act Commissioners. Some members of the Council—among whom were Mr. W. HYMERS and Mr. BROCKETT—expressed an unwillingness to accede to Mr. Revely's proposed improvement, unless it were carried out generally: if it were partially acted upon, it would be a nuisance to those parties who did not choose to avail themselves of the permission to build. Mr. REVELY replied, that it would be no more a nuisance than the state of things already called into existence by the Council, by allowing certain persons—Mr. W. Hymers, Mr. Pearson, and others—to remove the quays or embankments from the front of their property. Mr. BROCKETT differed from his friend Mr. Revely: in the one case they were permitting the gradual removal of a nuisance—in the other, they would be reviving the very nuisance which they had for some time been gradually getting rid of. He had no desire to thwart Mr. Revely's project—quite the contrary; but he was anxious that it should be effected without injury to any of the inhabitants.

Finally, Mr. REVELY withdrew the names of the gentlemen whom he had named, and the matter was referred to the Watch Committee.

Mr. POTTS rose to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice. He had stated at the last meeting, he said, that he would not be bound by the resolution then read; and as some gentlemen seemed to think, on that occasion, that his allusions to Sir James Graham were prompted by personal or party hostility, he had so modified the language of the resolution, that there could now be no room for any such suspicion It was as follows:—

"That we, the Town Council of Gateshead, were surprised to learn from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department, that he had recommended to the Lord Chancellor the addition of six gentlemen to the Commission of the Peace in this borough, the present Magistrates being fully equal to all the duties that devolve upon them, and their integrity and ability having never been called in question, but, on the contrary, the utmost satisfaction having been felt by the inhabitants, at the manner in which the judicial business of the borough has been transacted since the passing of the Municipal Act."

Mr. STEPHEN FORSTER seconded the resolution.

The MAYOR could not see that it devolved upon the Council to call in question the new appointments. They had been made legally, and on what ground could they interfere? Why were they to array themselves in hostility to Sir James Graham? Had not the late Ministry appointed two additional Magistrates in Newcastle without consulting the Council? And if so, the present Government had only followed the example of their predecessors. There could be only one opinion as to the manner in which the present Magistrates had discharged their duties, but this Council had no right to dictate to the Home Secretary that he should appoint no other gentlemen to the Bench.

Mr. WYLAM observed, that Sir James Graham had taken no notice of memorials addressed to him on the subject from other boroughs; and if one were adopted in Gateshead, it would receive no attention.

The TOWN CLERK explained that Mr. Potts's motion was not addressed to Sir James Graham, but merely expressed an opinion of the Council; and Mr. POTTS, in reply to a Councillor, stated that he had no intention to propose the adoption of a memorial, founded upon the resolution.

Mr. SWAN observed, that the resolution amounted to a remonstrance, and Sir James Graham would only laugh at it, and treat it as the offspring of disappointed partisanship. To adopt such a resolution was a work of supererogation. It would be more straightforward to pass and record a vote of thanks to the present Magistrates. Such a resolution would express the views of the Council, and be the severest censure that could be passed on the Home Secretary. He would move a vote of thanks as an amendment.

Mr. Ald. BROCKETT was a great enemy to mock modesty and, therefore, (though one of the Magistrates,) would not refrain from taking part in this discussion. The Mayor had told the Council that they had no business to comment on the Home Secretary's appointments. That might be the opinion of his Worship, but the Council had a right to think for themselves, independently of the Mayor. Surely the Council were qualified to say whether or not they thought half-a-dozen Magistrates sufficient for the business of the borough. For himself, he felt obliged to Mr. Swan for his "amendment" of thanks, but he had no desire for such a compliment; and if it were paid—if the Council thanked the Magistrates for their services—would not such a vote imply exactly the same thing as was expressed in Mr. Potts's resolution, viz., that the present Magistrates were adequate to the business of the borough, and had conducted themselves to the satisfaction of the public? The Home Secretary, no doubt, had the power of appointing six additional Magistrates—or six hundred, if he pleased. (Laughter.) And the Council had an equal right to say whether or not the Home Secretary was doing a necessary or an unnecessary act. The Mayor had said, that to do so was to array themselves in hostility against Sir James Graham. It was no such thing. Sir James knew nothing of Gateshead of his own knowledge—it was absurd to suppose that he could. He had acted upon the advice of other persons, and it was competent for the Council to say whether or not the Home Secretary had been properly advised.

Mr. REVELY contrasted the conduct of the present and the late Government. Lord John Russell's Municipal Bill gave, not merely the recommendation, but the election of Magistrates, to the town-councils. The clause was thrown out by the Lords, if he (Mr. R.) was not mistaken; and Lord John Russell then said, that the Government would take the opinion of the Councils, before they appointed Magistrates. This they had done, and was it not the most rational course? Was it not likely that local representatives of the inhabitants would be better able to decide in such a matter, than a Secretary of State residing two or three hundred miles from the spot? He must say that he cordially concurred in Mr. Potts's motion.

Mr. JAMES HYMERS observed, that he could not agree with the Mayor. The Council, he thought, had a perfect right to express their sentiments on the conduct of the Home Secretary. The letter from the Home Office would be entered on the minutes of the Council, and their opinions upon that letter ought to be recorded also.

The MAYOR wished to say, in reference to Mr. Ald. Brockett's remarks, that he had a perfect right to express his sentiments upon any question that came before the Council, and that right he was determined to exercise.

Mr. BROCKETT had never disputed the Mayor's right to express his sentiments: he had merely claimed, for himself and the Council, the right of differing from the Mayor.

Mr. SWAN conceived that Mr. Brockett had disputed the Mayor's right to interfere, and accused him of dictating to the Council.

Mr. BROCKETT replied, that Mr. Swan might conceive for himself, but he must not conceive for others.

Mr. SWAN would think for himself.

Mr. BROCKETT: Certainly—exactly what you ought to do.

Mr. CUMMINS seconded Mr. Swan's amendment. The Council had nothing to do with the Government; and the present Magistrates, he thought, ought to be thankful for the relief which they had received, in the appointment of six colleagues.

Mr. KENMIR would have stood forward as boldly as any man, if the Government had dismissed any of the present Magistrates; but as that had not been done, neither had any censure been passed upon the Magistrates who had so well discharged the duties of their office, the Council would be stepping out of their way, if they were to interfere. He would move the "previous question."

Mr. SWAN—on the representation that his motion could not properly be brought forward as an amendment—withdrew it for the present.

The Council then divided:—

For Mr. Potts's motion.—Alderman Wilson, and Councillors Davis, Potts, Forster, Reveley, and J. Hymers.

Against it.—The Mayor, and Councillors Wylam, Kenmir, Cummins, Swan, Smith, T. Sowerby, and J. R. Wilson.

Neuter.—Aldermen Pollock and Brockett, and Councillor W. Hymers.

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Mr. Swan moved a vote of thanks to the present Magistrates, for the able, efficient, and impartial manner in which they had discharged their duties.

Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

Mr. Ald. Wilson suggested the introduction of a few words, stating the adequacy of the present Magistrates to the duties that devolved upon them.

Mr. J. R. Wilson supported the suggestion; and Mr. Swan having concurred, the resolution was altered as follows:—

That the warmest thanks of this Council are due, and be given, to the Magistrates for this borough, for their able, efficient, and impartial discharge of their duties, they having shown themselves fully adequate to the duties of the borough.

Mr. Cummins would not second the resolution in that form. They might as well have passed Mr. Potts's.

Mr. Ald. Wilson said he would second the resolution; and it was put to a show of hands, and carried unanimously.

The Mayor suggested that the names should be taken down, but the Town Clerk replied that he had entered the motion as "passed unanimously," no gentleman having held up his hand when the negative was put.

Mr. Potts observed, that he felt much obliged to the Council; for although they had rejected the motion which he had proposed, they had passed it unanimously in a different form. (Laughter.) The meeting then separated.

STATE CHURCHES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—Observing a paragraph in your paper of last week, from which it might be inferred, however unintentionally on the part of the writer, that I had made the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society a present of pamphlets consisting of little but my own publications, may I beg the favour of a space in your columns to state, that the principal part of that contribution, if so it might be called, was made up of a tract entitled "A State Church inconsistent with the New Testament," by an author deceased.

I know not, indeed, that I should have troubled you with this communication—as any imputation which might rest upon me, personally, would be of little importance—but I am induced to do so by the importance rather of the principle involved in that tract—a principle on which I conceive all Protestants ought now to be fully agreed. It was the misfortune of the Reformation, Sir, that every National Church took upon itself to set up its own *species* of Protestantism as the standard of orthodoxy, and so to adopt that very principle of Popery against which *all* had protested—namely, that every man has *not* a right to judge for himself in matters of religion.

That a State Church *is* inconsistent with the New Testament, if not with the law of the Old, I prove in the following manner:—"Know ye not, brethren, (saith the Apostle,) for I speak to them that know the law, how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband, so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then, if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man."

Now, Sir, the same Apostle, speaking on the subject of matrimony, says:—"It is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and the Church:" namely, that the Church is the spouse of Christ. Applying this, then, to the union of Church and State, it will follow, that the Church, in contracting such affinity with the State, hath committed adultery against her first husband, Christ, unless it can be shown, either that He is dead, of whom it is witnessed that He liveth for ever more; or, secondly, (an alternative which such Churches perhaps will not be very willing to admit,) that, in point of fact, they *never were* the lawful brides of Christ. One or other of these consequences must necessarily follow from the present relation of the State to the Church; and it is for this reason, I conceive, that the Church is represented in the book of Revelations as having committed *fornication* with the kings of the earth.

As to my *endeavour* to identify the Church of England with the "second beast," as described in that book, I might very well have spared myself the trouble; seeing that the Oxford divines have well-nigh identified it with the "first beast" itself. If Puseyism be rightly described as "Popery without a Pope," Palmerism may be characterized, I think, as both Pope and Popery in one; and to the anathemas which he has thought proper to fulminate from the Vatican at Oxford, I may be permitted perhaps to add "one curse more," taken from the Commination Service, and to which, as there commanded, all the people, I trust, will add their hearty *Amen*. "Cursed is he that removeth his neighbour's landmark"—putting light for darkness, and darkness for light—cursing those whom it is God's purpose to bless, and blessing those whom, for aught I know, it is His will to curse.

But, Sir, I am not surprised at the "Popery of Oxford." I could look for nothing else but "pushing with side and with shoulders" from the "horns of the beast." They will discourse very learnedly, no doubt; and as much like a lamb as you could wish, until they have wrought themselves into power. But when they once think that they are safe in the seat of "legal authority," it will not be long before they will assume the voice of the dragon.

I say then, Sir, that I am not at all surprised at this ebullition of anger from Oxford; but I confess that I am a little surprised at similar indications from another quarter—a Church which has so lately escaped itself from the fangs of Episcopal domination. You will easily guess, Sir, that I allude to the excommunication of a poor couple in the Church of Scotland, for burying their child on a Sunday; though it doth not appear why one religious ceremony, if such it is to be accounted, (burial, for instance,) may not be performed as well as another (baptism) on that day. It may be said, perhaps, that the latter is done in obedience to the command of Christ, namely, 'Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not;' but I submit, Sir, that the Scripture says nothing for what purpose they are to come—whether to be baptized or to be buried (only to be blessed); and if it be true, that "death is the gate of life," I certainly can see no day more fit than the Lord's day for a *believer's* funeral. At least, I can find no text more suitable for such an occasion than that which the author of the Apocalypse was expressly employed in inditing, when he was "in the spirit on the Lord's day." "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." As I may trouble you with a few more observations next week, connected with the Church of Scotland, I shall add no more at present, but that I am your obedient servant, R. B. S.

BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

AT A SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT of the Quarterly Meeting of the Town Council of Gateshead, held in the Council Room in the Town Hall, on the 22d of December, 1841, (*Present*—George Sowerby, Esq., Mayor, in the chair, together with Aldermen Brockett, Pollock, and Wilson, and Councillors William Hymers, William Kenmir, Ralph Wylam, Robert Davis, John Potts, Stephen Forster, James Smith, Thomas Cummins, Thomas Sowerby, Thomas Revely, James Hymers, J. R. Wilson, and Walker Swan,) it was resolved *unanimously*—

On the motion of Councillor Swan,

Seconded by Alderman Wilson,

That the warmest thanks of this Council are due, and be given, to the Magistrates for this borough, for their able, efficient, and impartial discharge of their duties, they having shown themselves fully adequate to the duties of the borough.

Gateshead, Dec. 23, 1841.

THE NEW FARMERS' JOURNAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

DEAR SIR,—I would have refrained from noticing an article you copied last week from the *New Farmers' Journal*, were it not that my silence might be construed into a dread of those terrors which the august personage who edits that paper has suspended over my head. It appears that I have audaciously disparaged the man's classical attainments, and brought his literary fame into contempt, by declaring that the "Mr. Robins" who visited Northumberland in October last, to examine the farmers upon their Corn Law Catechisms, is actually the Editor of the *New Farmers' Journal*. Such are

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the tricks practised upon us northern gulls by "subordinates" employed in Cockney "departments," whose aptness to imitate the manners of their masters is often so admirably performed, that "Mr. Robins" is not the first that has passed current amongst us. "Mr. Robins" certainly was zealous in the cause of the *Farmers' Journal*, and staid folks might consider that he was indiscreet; yet his "zeal" did not so far "outrun his discretion" that men could discover any lack of "literary ability' in him, to pen the puffs of the *Farmers' Journal*. Nay, critics even asserted that the vocabulary—aye! and the logic, too—of Mr. Robins might be found interlarded in the *dicta* of the Buckingham organ. Little did we suppose that the real, the veritable, the *bona fide* Editor was a still greater man—a man of parts—that he was a "*Triton* amongst the minnows" in Grub-street—a literary luminary, whose effulgence eclipsed the entire republic of letters. True, he has told us that "he has had the pleasure of making strict inquiries amongst the farmers of Northumberland on the Corn Laws;" but where are they who have been so fortunate as to have the cobwebs brushed from their brains by this pioneer of the march of intellect? In what grove or temple did he deliver his oracles?

It was my opinion, conscientiously expressed in the face of my countrymen, that drew upon me the *ridicule* of the Editor, who "deals with OPINIONS, and *not* the PERSONS who profess them." I have met too many rubs in life to abandon the cause of a great national question, and "leave any further discussion on that point to *counsel learned in the law*."

The Editor of the *Farmers' Journal* says that he is "by no means litigiously disposed." Yet, with all his forbearance, it is not difficult to perceive that with him "Protection to British Agriculture" is but a feather, when placed in the balance against other propensities.

My observations upon Mr. Bates, are also repulsive to the taste of the fastidious Editor. Mr. Bates, upon others, may spit forth his froth "of a character not altogether foreign to the conduct of the *Farmers' Journal*." With all his outward sanctity, he, in its columns, made a gross, unprovoked allusion to myself; otherwise his egotistical bombast would have remained unnoticed by me. I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

Bywell, Dec. 21, 1841. SAMUEL DONKIN.

Mr. Samuel Donkin, of Bywell, near Felton, (whose letters on County Reform, and on other subjects, have made his name familiar to our readers,) will next week be presented with an elegant and costly tea and coffee service, manufactured in silver by Messrs. Reed & Son, of Dean-street, Newcastle. The plate consists of tea and coffee pot, sugar-basin, and cream-ewer, and may now be seen at the shop of Mr. Taylor, watchmaker, Newgate-street, Morpeth. The coffee-pot bears the following inscription:—

PRESENTED,
WITH A TEA SERVICE,
TO
MR. SAMUEL DONKIN,
THE ABLE AND INTREPID ADVOCATE OF COUNTY REFORM,
BY THE RATEPAYERS OF NORTHUMBERLAND
FRIENDLY TO HIS VIEWS.

The independent and grateful ratepayers, in thus declaring their respect and esteem, have given the most effectual reply to the attacks which have from time to time been made upon Mr. Donkin, through the instrumentality of the Tory Press.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO MR. S. DONKIN, OF BYWELL, NEAR FELTON.

THE Committee of Management of a testimonial from the county ratepayers of Northumberland, to Mr. Samuel Donkin, invited that gentleman to a dinner at the Whalebone inn, Morpeth, on Wednesday, Dec. 29th, to receive a distinguished mark of their approbation of his public advocacy of a more economical and constitutional manner of managing the County Financial Affairs.

THOMAS LAWSON, Esq., of Longhirst Grange, presided on the occasion: the vice-chair was taken by Mr. JOHN CHRISP, of Rugby. After the usual loyal toasts were given,

The CHAIRMAN rose, and, addressing himself to Mr. Donkin, said:—I am deputed, Sir, by my colleagues of the Committee of Management, appointed by the subscribers to this testimonial, to present it to you as a mark of their approbation of your advocacy of a more satisfactory measure of managing our local and financial affairs. (Applause.) You have justly entitled yourself to the thanks of the ratepayers of Northumberland for the open and fearless exposures which you have at different times made of the abuses which have crept into the management of the county-rate; and the retrenchment which has already been made in the expenditure thereof, is a proof that the Magistrates are anxious to meet the wishes of the ratepayers. (Applause.) True, there are objectionable items still to be found in the published accounts, but, by continuing to remonstrate against them, we may hope to see them removed. Accept, Sir, this tribute of our respect and gratitude for your valuable public services; and as you have honourably gained it, so may you long continue to enjoy it in the bosom of your family. (Applause.)

Mr. Donkin's health was drank with all the honours. [The plate presented by the Chairman, in behalf of the ratepayers, consisted, as we last week stated, of a tea and coffee service, inscribed:—"To Mr. Samuel Donkin, the able and intrepid advocate of County Reform, by the ratepayers of Northumberland friendly to his views."]

Mr. DONKIN said in reply:—Though I am not altogether unaccustomed to address a public company, yet I assure you that I find considerable difficulty in attempting to do so on this occasion. To relieve myself of that difficulty, I will not dwell upon those observations relating to myself which have been made by my worthy friend whom you have delegated to express your sentiments. However flattering these may appear, yet I am convinced of their sincerity by the experience of many years of uninterrupted friendship with him. I have just reason to be proud of possessing the respect of such men as I have now the honour of addressing. Next to the delight of an approving conscience, is the approbation and respect of our fellow-creatures. Perfection is not an attribute of man; and by reminding ourselves of our own failings, we ought to look with a charitable eye upon those of others. You have done me the high honour of presenting me with this splendid memorial of your approbation of my advocacy of a measure which the legislature has yet withheld from us—the right of having the controul over our local government. But we cannot despair of the ultimate triumph of the principles of popular local government, when we consider the growth of those principles amongst us. Questions of such tremendous importance to the nation must soon engross the attention of parliament, that it would not be prudent to urge our demands of County Reform at this time—but we must not lose sight of the question. Till a fitting season arrives, let us keep a watchful eye upon those who have the management of our local financial affairs. By referring to the Report of the Magistrates upon the Memorials which were last year presented to them by the ratepayers, we may learn how far the grievances complained of have been redressed. True that the salary of the chaplain to the county prison has been cut down from £80 to £60. Now I believe that I am speaking the sentiments of a great majority of the ratepayers when I say, that a salary of £100 would have been cheerfully given to a chaplain, to have devoted the whole of his time to the unfortunate prisoners. The religious consolations now offered to these miserable beings are a complete mockery. Then we have £20 taken from the salary of the keeper of the Tynemouth house of correction. I say that this is far from a judicious act of economy. Mr. Robb is a very useful public servant. From the great number of prisoners constantly under his charge, his duties are very onerous. We wish to see an efficient public servant adequately paid. But there is the salary of one public servant upon which I cannot avoid animadvertiug. I do not wish to utter one syllable derogatory to the abilities of Mr Welsh as an architect; but I do say, that he can have no just claim upon us of £600 per annum, for any services which the county receives from him. (Hear, hear.) And the obstinate maintenance of that salary by the Magistrates, in the face of a unanimous condemnation of it, is, to use no harsher expression, a flagrant misapplication of the public money. I have heard it asserted that the Justices would maintain this salary, lest they might be thought yielding to the "pressure from without;" but I cannot imagine that they can so far forget the duties which they owe to the public, as to take their stand upon such an indefensible position. The course which we must pursue is plain and practicable. Let us present a Memorial at the Easter Sessions, bearing specifically upon this abuse; and I hereby pledge myself to obtain the

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signatures of 1,000 ratepayers. (Applause.) If the prominent part which I have taken in the agitation of County Reform has procured me these splendid specimens of workmanship in silver, do not let my friends imagine that my humble exertions in the cause will now cease. This token of your confidence will stimulate me to increased action—it will support me in those difficulties which lie in the way of every man who agitates against a public abuse. It is not the intrinsic worth of this testimonial that makes it valuable in my eyes—it is dear to me because it is the voluntary offering of men who have thereby manifested their devotion to popular institutions. (Applause.) I prize it because it is the gift of men who have declared their attachment to popular representation—to constitutional reform—regardless of the humble station of the individual who has feebly, though honestly, advocated their views. (Applause.) When I look over the list of subscribers to this testimonial, I am strengthened in my conviction of the truth of those principles of Municipal Reform which I have advocated. In that list may be found the names of men of great moral worth, of unimpeachable public honesty, of high standing in society; and I will preserve that catalogue with the same veneration that I will preserve this valuable offering. These tokens of your esteem will, I trust, prove objects of laudable ambition to my sons, who may learn from them that honesty, and perseverance, and singleness of purpose in the pursuit of a public as well as a private object, is the best way of securing the respect of those whose respect *is* worth a lengthened struggle to obtain—the men whom no temptation can seduce, nor power overawe, from discharging the duties they owe to their country. (Applause.) However lamentable it is to witness the pusillanimity and weakness of certan individuals in maintaining their rights as citizens of a free state, yet we have reason to rejoice that we enjoy the invaluable blessings of a Free Press, through whose agency alone we must expect to accomplish the object we have in view—a more constitutional system of municipal government. (Applause.) Whatever opposition we may be doomed to meet with, I trust that no dereliction of duty in me—no dread of men in high places—no abject submission to self-constituted authorities—no shrinking before the face of arbitrary power—will ever cause you to repent of this valuable mark of your confidence and respect.—Wishing you, and all the subscribers, a long and happy life, and hoping that you will accept my most grateful acknowledgments for this distinguished proof of your kindness, I beg to propose "The Healths of the Ratepayers of Northumberland, friendly to our views." (Loud applause.)

Mr. CHRISP, in the course of the evening, proposed "The Lord Lieutenant and Magistrates of the County;" Mr. DONKIN, "The Committee," and "Mr. Bigge, of Linden;" Mr. CAIRNS, of Meldon, "Mr. Watson, the Secretary to the Committee;" and "The Chairman," "Vice-Chairman," and other toasts having been given, the company separated at an early hour. The dinner and wines were excellent.

THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GATESHEAD OBSERVER.

SIR,—It would appear by the report of our Gateshead Town Council on Wednesday, Dec. 15, that a deputation from the projectors of the above scheme had waited upon them, soliciting their co-operation and assistance; and that the Mayor, who was in the chair, had stated, in reply to the application, that he had not the slightest doubt but the Council would give them every assistance in their power.

I am extremely sorry if this should be the feeling entertained by the Corporation of Gateshead, as I consider the notion of the bridge being a benefit to this town is at least very questionable. The town of Gateshead has been anything but improving of late, notwithstanding the flattering hopes held out by so many, of the golden prospects in view when the Brandling Railway was in agitation. We have found their hopes fallacious—our anticipations of increased trade are a miserable failure indeed. The people who used to come to the town from the villages eastward of Gateshead, were obliged to pass through the High-street, and, as a matter of course, did part of their business there; but now, when the railway brings them to the foot of Oakwellgate, they drop into Newcastle without ever seeing canny Gateside.

Gateshead is indebted for the trade she enjoys to the colliery villages in the south and west, and to the farmers; but if this contemplated bridge upon a high level be actually carried into operation, and the Great North of England Railway be continued down to Newcastle, I make no hesitation in saying that one half of the traffic she now possesses will be transferred to the high part of Newcastle. The farmers from the country will never for a moment think of stopping at any of the inns in Gateshead. When they can, in five minutes, drive along the High Level Bridge, and get their corn to the gates of the market itself, the canny Gatesiders in High-street may look up Bailey-chare with rueful countenances, and see their old customers, the west-country farmers, proceeding onward to Newcastle, to favour the tradesmen and innkeepers of that town with their custom. And, Sir, to bring the point still nearer home, the farmers will forget the very *Gateshead Observer* itself, which now enlightens their minds and enlivens their leisure hours; for they will no longer see that "The *Observer* is ready;" and, "out of sight," you know, "out of mind." Thus there will be a reciprocal loss—a loss to them and a loss to you.

I sincerely hope that the Council of Gateshead will consider seriously whether this project will benefit us of Gateshead. The property of the town should not be overlooked. Recollect that the terminus of all the railways is proposed to be in the centre of Newcastle; and whatever facilitates the passage of the people to Newcastle, will in a degree hurt the tradesmen of of Gateshead. There can only be one opinion, if the subject is fairly considered. Will the people of Newcastle come and spend their money in Gateshead? No! But the people of Gateshead, even in a greater degree than at present, will spend their money in Newcastle.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

December 22, 1841. WREKENTON.

Colonel Charles Grey and Mr. John Ponsonby are trustees and executors under the will of the late Countess of Durham. The contrary statement, copied into our paper from a contemporary, is incorrect.

The Newcastle News Rooms have sold their newspapers in the present week. We give the result of the local sales:—

EXCHANGE NEWS-ROOM, SANDHILL.

The *Chronicle*, 10s., 6d and 8s., and the *Courant*, 8s. and 7s., (removable on Saturday evening).

The *Observer*, 13s. 6d., and the *Journal*, 11s. 6d., (removable on Saturday evening). The *Observer*, 12s., and the *Journal*, no bidders, (removable on Sunday evening).

The *Mercury*, 9s. 6d., 9s., and 8s., (removable on Tuesday evening).

The *Northern Advertiser*, 8s. 6d. and 8s., (removable on Friday evening).

CENTRAL-EXCHANGE NEWS-ROOM, MARKET STREET.

Removed on the day of publication:—*Observer*, 12s. 6d, 12s., and 12s.; *Journal*, 12s., 12s., and 11s. 6d.; *Courant*, 11s. 6d., 11s., and 10s. 6d.; *Chronicle*, 10s. 9d., 10s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; *Northern Advertiser*, 10s.; and *Tyne Mercury*, 9s., 9s., and 8s. 6d.

Removed on the day after publication:—*Journal*, 11s. 6d. and 11s. 6d., *Observer*, 10s. 6d. and 9s. 6d.; *Courant*, 9s. 9d. and 9s. 6d.; *Chronicle* 8s. 6d. and 7s. 3d.; *Advertiser*, 8s. 6d. and 8s. 6d.; and *Mercury*, 5s. 6d and 5s 6d.

Removed one week after date:—*Observer*, 5s.; *Journal*, 5s.; *Chronicle*, 4s.; and *Mercury*, 3s.

Mr. Alderman Potter presided on Tuesday at a meeting of the Soup Kitchen Committee, held in the Council-chamber, Newcastle, when the sum of £100, voted by the Council, was apportioned among the different parishes of the town. The Chairman stated that several coalowners had promised to supply small coal for the poor at this inclement season; and we trust that every person, according to his means, will contribute to the relief of the prevailing distress.

The proceeds of the Gateshead Fell Ball, we are glad to learn, are likely to add about £17 10s. to the funds of the Public Rooms. This sum includes a sovereign kindly contributed by Mr. Swinburne.

THE TITHES OF MELDON.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT, THURSDAY, DEC. 23.—(*Before Vice-Chancellor Wigram.*)—RAINE *v.* CAIRNS.—This cause was argued at Westminster during several days in Michaelmas Term. The suit was instituted for the recovery of the tithes in kind in the parish of Meldon, in the county of Northumberland. The case was remarkable for the very ex-

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traordinary extent of learning and antiquarian research with which the evidence on behalf of the Church had been collected. The entire parish anciently belonged to a family of the name of Heron or Hearon. About the time of the great rebellion the property came into the hands of the Fenwicks. From the restoration, or soon afterwards, it became vested in the Radcliffes, Earls of Derwentwater. The parish continued to be a part of the possessions of the Radcliffe family until the attainder of James, third Earl of Derwentwater, in 1715. Upon his attainder, the parish of Meldon, together with other of the Derwentwater estates, was granted by the Crown to Greenwich Hospital; and Meldon remained the property of the Hospital, until, under the authority of an Act of Parliament, the estates of the Hospital in the north of England were disposed of. In 1822, while the parish still belonged to Greenwich Hospital, the rector represented to the Governors the situation and claims of the Church in Meldon; and after much correspondence on the subject, the evidence in support of the claim for tithes being submitted to the Governors and their legal advisers, the Governors of the Hospital consented to acknowledge that the land was subject to tithes, the rector undertaking to give up all claim for arrears. The lands in the parish of Meldon were in 1832 sold by auction, subject to tithes, and were purchased by Mr. Cookson, the real defendant in this suit. The consent by the Hospital not being binding upon Mr. Cookson, the payment of tithes was resisted after his purchase. The facts with regard to the regular succession of rectors from the earliest period, interrupted only by the intrusion of one Bedlowe during the interregnum, and also of the descent or acquisition of the estate by the different owners from time to time, so far as was necessary to authenticate their respective acts, as also the perception of titheable matters by the defendants, were admitted. The lands in the parish of Meldon consist of about 900 or 1,000 acres, a small part of which is in the occupation of Mr. Cookson, and the remainder in that of his tenants. The defence was, that the lands were not subject to tithes in kind, but only to a modus, or money payment, formerly of 20 marks, and at present of the equivalent sum of £13 6s. 8d., and which, it was alleged, had been immemorially paid in lieu of tithes. Among the evidence tendered to disprove the fact of there having been this immemorial payment, were the bull of Pope Innocent IV., in 1260, granting a subsidy to the King, towards the Holy Land, of one-tenth of all ecclesiastical revenues in England, and the taxation under that bull, called the "Norwich taxation;" the bull of Pope Nicholas (1291), granting another tenth for a similar purpose, and the taxation under it; and the ecclesiastical survey of the time of Henry VIII. There were also various other ancient documents from the different national, cathedral, and collegiate repositories, exhibiting great fluctuations in the stated value or produce of the benefice. In some years it appeared that no return whatever was made for the parish of Meldon, and the reason frequently assigned was that it had been devastated by the incursions of the Scots. The greater part of the ancient documents were objected to on the part of the defendants. It was said, that however these documents and records might be legitimate and valuable as materials for public history, where the absence of personal or individual interest left them as evidence open to no suspicion, yet upon general principles such writings could not be safely received as evidence in questions of property between party and party. Other evidence adduced in the cause consisted of receipts given by the successive rectors to the landowners from the year 1637, down to a comparatively recent period; and a document on which much reliance was placed by the defendants was the Parliamentary survey during the interregnum. The judgment on the admissibility of the evidence which had been tendered, as well as on the cause generally, was reserved.

Mr. Boteler and Mr. Purvis were counsel for the Church, and Mr. Sharpe and Mr. Lutwidge for the landowner.

The Vice Chancellor this morning pronounced his judgment. He said that he had been prepared to deliver his opinion on the cause ever since the commencement of the present sittings, but he had delayed it that in the event of any suggestion occurring to his mind, upon which he might think it his duty to do so, he might give the defendant the opportunity of an issue for the purpose of trying the existence of the modus. He was, however, still of the opinion which he had formed, that the decree must be at once made, establishing the title of the rector to the tithes. In late years, when the Court had found the payment of an annual fixed sum, and the non-payment of tithe in kind, fully established as far back as living memory extended, and had found such usage opposed only by the evidence of the old ecclesiastical surveys, the practice had been to leave the case as a mere question of fact to the decision of a jury. In this case there was also the evidence adduced by the defendant in support of the modus, consisting of receipts from 1637 to 1793. These receipts described the payment as being in respect of 20 marks due, sometimes as "the rent of the rectory," sometimes "for the rent," sometimes "for the rectory;" and after the year 1743, for the "prescribed rent." It was singular that the word "prescribed" was added to the receipts after 1743, when far less stringent expressions had satisfied the parties for more than a century. It could not be that the parties in 1743 had more knowledge of the truth of the case than those who preceded them; and if any conclusion were drawn from this remarkable change in the form of the expression, it would certainly be that it was introduced for the purpose of giving colour to the inference that had since been drawn from the nonpayment of tithe in kind. In proportion as the parties receded from the point at which a knowledge of the truth would most probably be had, the expressions in the receipts had become less favourable to the rector. Mr. Baron Alderson had lately, in the case of "Knight *v.* the Marquis of Waterford," observed upon the readiness with which the rights of the Church are often compromised. A more important observation on the receipts was, that none of them purported to be given for a payment in satisfaction of tithes, but affirmatively for a very different thing, and about the meaning of which there could be neither doubt nor difficulty. It must not be forgotten that the defendants had no knowledge of the facts excepting that which they inferred from the documents that came into Mr. Cookson's possession when he purchased the property. Nothing was known of the payment of £13 6s. 8d., excepting the receipts, and the same evidence which proved that fact proved also that the payment was made for the whole rectory of Meldon. Why should the obvious meaning of the words of the receipts down to 1743 be altered? If the receipts said that the rent was paid for the rectory, why should it not be assumed that there was a lease of the rectory in respect of which the rent was reserved? If the rent was due for the rectory, it was not an immemorial payment in lieu of tithes in kind, unless it was to be assumed that the rectory had originally had neither parsonage house, nor glebe, nor churchyard, belonging to it. There was, however, proof that a rector in 1637 was proceeded against for non residence. But the payment of £13 6s. 8d. was not all: there was also the payment of 8s. 9½d. in every year, and which there was ground to presume had been continuous. The plaintiff explained it by saying that the rent reserved must have been a net rent, and all outgoings must have been paid by the lessee. The defendant said it was the mere bounty of the lessee. In that case there would have been no reason for an annual receipt. It was clear also that the smaller sum was originally demanded by the rector as a right, in respect of the King's tenths, and was paid by the landlord under protest. The proposition that the £13 6s. 8d. was a modus, was an inference drawn by the defendant from the documents and muniments of title handed over to him when he became the purchaser. Some of those documents he relied on—the others he rejected. The court must look at both as constituting together the true history of the church at Meldon. It could not give the defendant the benefit of one page of that history, and close the other. The issue tendered was, that from time immemorial the right of the rector to tithes had been satisfied by an annual payment of £13 6s. 8d. The evidence proved that more than £13 6s. 8d. had been paid in every year. How could the Court say that the alleged sum alone had satisfied the demand for tithes in kind? It was urged that the money value of the tithes could not correspond with the sum paid. To make a comparison of money value of importance, we must be certain that we are comparing the value of the same thing. There was no evidence or information concerning the state of the property in point of cultivation, rent, and otherwise, at the earlier periods. The incursions of the Scots upon the lands in the north of England, of which the earlier documents in evidence contained so many traces, were frequent during the civil wars of the 17th century, and had not wholly ceased long afterwards. In 1731 there was an act in the statute-book to continue certain laws for preventing theft

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and rapine on the northern borders. No material observations, therefore, could be made in the plaintiff's favour by a comparison of the money value of the tithes. Upon the defendant's evidence, however, the Court would almost be bound to decide the case against him. No one could deny that some weight must be given to the ancient ecclesiastical surveys. If the money payment was all the church was entitled to, why should the rectory be returned as of no value by reason of the incursions of the Scots? Tithes in kind might be extinguished by the wasting of the district, but the obligations of the proprietors to make good the fixed payment was independent of the state of soil. The incursion, indeed, might incapacitate the proprietor from paying; but there was no reason to believe it was upon that principle the return proceeded. Mr. Cookson had purchased the estate subject to the incumbrance, and he was perfectly at liberty to dispute its validity; but in making the decree for the rector, the Court had the satisfaction of knowing that it was not depriving Mr. Cookson of one iota of the subject of his purchase.—*Times.*

LINES SUGGESTED BY GATESHEAD-FELL BALL.

Lo! Beauty sparkles in the dance,
And Music fills the air,
And Pleasure beams in every glance—
No thought but gladness there.

I stood upon the streamlet's side,
In summer's blithest hour,
When sunbeams decked in jewelled pride,
The traces of the shower.

On lovely flower, and stately tree,
The rays in lustre gleamed:
Aloud the sound of melody
From feathered songsters streamed.

The new-born flies in glittering hue
Their fleeting span bestowed:
They circled o'er the water blue,
Which swept them as it flowed.

So beauteous maid, and stalwart youth,
Must own th' imperious sway:
We yield to Fate—oh trivial truth!
And glide—how swift—away.

Since rare the joys, and few the days,
To man in mercy given,
We'll wanton boldly in the blaze,
And seek foretaste of Heaven.

Say—can a still more gorgeous scene
A gayer dream unfold?
Bright eyes surpass the diamond sheen,
And ruby lips the gold.

As onward youth and beauty move,
We miss no proud array;
For every look is health and love,
And nought but joy has sway.

The while I view each maiden bright,
My heart with rapture fills.
May Heaven's best blessings on them light,
And spare its chastening ills.

Alas! the transient flickering's o'er!
We fall on Time's swift stream.
We sink—but soon to rise once more,
Where life is not a dream.

Dec. 16th, 1841. Δ

LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

No. XLIX.—THE CAMPEY HILL COINS.

TO JOHN BELL, ANTIQUARY.

SIR,—When, in a former letter, I enumerated some particulars respecting the discovery of coins, and other antiquities, in this town and neighbourhood, it was then unforeseen that a spot then referred to, and which is known to be rich in antiquarian treasures, should so very soon be further explored, thus affording us one more opportunity of getting a glimpse at bygone ages. The grave has opened its mouth again; and before receiving the mortal remains of a contemporary, has vomited forth some interesting fragments, belonging to a very early pepiod of our history.

It was in making a grave in the Campey Hill, for William Errington, the well-known common carrier between this town and Newcastle, that a *brass vessel* was found, containing such a quantity of the ANGLO-SAXON COINS called STYCAS, as to form an important era in Numismatics. This discovery was made on Monday, October 15th, 1832; and that interesting grave has this day been re-opened, to receive the corpse of another William Errington, nephew to the former: and truly it was a sight at once gratifying and repulsive—repulsive, inasmuch as it exposed the whole length of the coffin, which has now been more than nine years in the earth (that of W. E., sen.,) all the surface and one of the sides being quite bare—nay, the mould taken in part from under it, at the depth of eight feet; and what made the sight still more affecting, was the projection of another coffin, the length of a foot or more, into the new grave, but which had been deposited about two feet nearer the surface. To come in contact again with those whom we have often looked upon and conversed with—nay, whose frailties we have pitied, and whose pleasantries we have laughed at—to get one more glance at them, after they had left us so long, is truly affecting.

The want of sufficient BURYING GROUND has long been a subject demanding public attention in this town; and often have I endeavoured, during fifteen years or more, to bring it under the notice of the people; and of late it has obtained some serious consideration.

But there is an aspect in which the sight described was gratifying—at least to a certain set of men. The irrepressible curiosity of a virtuoso does not stop even at plundering the dead, and has been known to go the length of tanning a human hide. Where the carrion is, there will the vultures be—and there to be sure, was old Jacky Bearparke, the local historian, whose history, written as it is in his memory, must soon, I fear, fade: and there, too, was my respected friend Joseph Fairless, whose skill in Numismatics is not perhaps excelled by any of his townsmen: and whilst we looked upon the tomb which, within an hour, was to be closed, we saw the sexton and his son, who were both in the grave, pick out from the soil, which was mostly raked from beneath the coffin, a number of COINS, many of which we were permitted to examine. About fifty have been enumerated — similar in appearance to those formerly discovered. The vessel in which they had been inclosed having been broken, these now found, and probably many more, had been scattered and left in the grave.

There are now, Sir, more than ever, reasons for believing that if the superincumbent earth were removed to a depth not greater perhaps than the floor of the church, a discovery would be made casting much light upon the history of Hexham, and particularly upon an edifice which, regarded as the *meeting-house* of a sect, I would not be compelled to support by any means whatever, yet, viewed as a piece of *antiquity*, one may look upon it with wonder. The sexton declared his belief that this part of the Campey Hill is arched beneath the graves; which he thought was indicated, both by the peculiarly hollow sound produced when struck by the mattock, and by the occurrence, at a great depth, of what he supposed to be mortar. How powerful is habit! It is possible, then, for a man to be facetious with his feet upon a coffin. They are an odd set, these sextons. They have not all the wit of the gravedigger in Hamlet, but some of them have as much hilarity.

The funeral this evening was remarkable, also, for a numerous procession. The deceased having been an ODD FELLOW, that fraternity, to the number of perhaps fourscore, followed him to the grave. The appearance and behaviour of the men was orderly and becoming, but the merits of Odd Fellowship must be best known by the initiated.

I remain, Sir, yours very truly,

Hexham, December 27th, 1841. J. R.

P.S.—The discovery this day of an amazing quantity of bones in a solid mass, deposited in a central part of the Campey Hill, will afford an important subject for No. 50.

Hexham, Dec. 29, 1841.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY.

AT a Convocation holden in the past week, the Rev. William Turner, M.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, was admitted *ad eundem* by vote of the house; William Lloyd Wharton, M.A., was nominated by the Warden, and approved by Convocation, to the office of Auditor of Accounts; and John Stewart Brown, Civil Engineer, was nominated by the Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, with the concurrence of the Curators of the Observatory, and approved by Convocation, to the office of Observer.

The following grace was passed:—"In consideration of two several sums of money given to the University by the subscri-

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bers to a scholarship, and the subscribers to a monument, in memory of the late Bishop Van Mildert, two scholarships shall be founded of the annual value of £50 each, to be called the Van Mildert Scholarships. The first scholar on this foundation shall be elected in June, 1842; and there shall be no further elections on the old foundation." Regulations were passed for the election to the Van Mildert scholarships.

A further grace was then passed, as follows:—"The Rev. Thomas Gisborne, M.A., Canon of Durham, having placed £500 at the disposal of the Dean and Chapter for the benefit of the University, and the Dean and Chapter having determined that this sum should be applied to the foundation of a scholarship, it is agreed that £100, previously given to the University by Mr. Gisborne, shall be added to the above sum, and that, in consideration of these gifts, a scholarship shall be founded of the annual value of £30, to be called the Gisborne Scholarship. That the Warden and Senate shall have authority to make regulations respecting the Gisborne Scholarship."

Regulations for University Fellowships were submitted and passed.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM'S PRIZES.

Hebrew Literature and Hellenistic Greek.—A prize of ten guineas to the student who shall pass the best examination in the Book of Genesis, in Hebrew; and in the Septuagint version, and in the Gospel according to St. Mark, in Greek, with special reference to Hellenistic phraseology and expression.

Classical Literature.—For Students in Arts who have not completed their ninth term of residence.—A prize of five guineas for the best translation into Latin prose of No. 133 of the Spectator.

A prize of five guineas for the best translation into Latin hexametre verse of Milton's Paradise Lost, Book vii., 387-446, beginning, "And God said, let the waters generate," and ending, "coloured with the florid hue of rainbows and starry eyes."

Mathematical and Physical Science.—A prize of ten guineas to be given to the student who shall pass the examination in Mathematical and Physical Science, at the final examination for the degree of B.A., or at the final examination of Engineer Students in 1842, and shall be recommended by the Examiner.

The remains of the lamented Countess of Durham were interred on Wednesday, Dec. 29th, at the church of Chester-le-Street, by the side of those of the deceased Earl. The body had arrived on the previous day at Rushyford, where it remained over-night; and the funeral took place, privately, in the afternoon of Wednesday. Colonel Grey, the Rev. F. Grey, Mr. Howard, and four of her Ladyship's sisters, viz., Ladies Barrington, Bulteel, Wood, and Georgiana Grey, were present on the mournful occasion. The funeral procession formed at Plasworth, about 2½ miles from Chester, and consisted of the hearse (drawn by six horses), four mourning coaches and six, twenty carriages, and about 150 of the tenantry, agents, &c., on horseback. The service was performed by the Rev. James Boucher, assisted by the Rev. Edward Edmunds.

The subscribers to the Gateshead News Room met on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock, when Mr. T. H. Apedaile was elected Treasurer; Mr. G. S. Dixon, Secretary; and Messrs. James Pollock, John Vickers, Joseph Clephan, Henry Brady, B. Matchitt, John Colman, and William Hedley, Committee. The papers were then sold. The *Times* brought £2 15s.; the *Globe* and *Sun*, each £2 2s.; the *Weekly Chronicle*, 12s.; the *Gateshead Observer*, 10s. 6d.; the *Newcastle Courant* and *Leeds Mercury*, each 10s.; the *Newcastle Journal*, 9s. 6d.; and the *Tyne Mercury*, 9s.

Mr. R. W. Hetherington, of the Gateshead Arms, presided on Christmas-day, at the annual tea-party of the Gateshead Fell Mechanics' Institute, which was held in the National School, Kell's-lane. The Committee's report was, on the whole, a satisfactory one, and especially in one of its statements, viz., that during the six years of its existence, the institution had been almost wholly supported by the subscriptions of the members themselves. The Rector (the Rev. W. Atkinson), Mr. J. G. Soppett, and one or two other gentlemen, had assisted the society; but, with these exceptions, the funds had been contributed by the working classes, in subscriptions of a penny a-week.—During the evening, appropriate addresses were delivered, and the choir of the church performed several select pieces of music.

BILLS OF MORTALITY.

NEWCASTLE.	*Baptisms.* M.	*Baptisms.* F.	*Burials.* M.	*Burials.* F.	*Marriages.**
St. Nicholas'	64	56	50	36	110
All Saints'	456	467	128	110	289
St. John's†	296	257	163	146	469
St. Andrew's	171	168	118	126	151
Ballast Hills‡	—	—	413	380	—
Westgate Cemetery	—	—	173	169	—
Jesmond Cemetery	—	—	56	42	—
Friends Cemetery	—	—	0	2	—
St. Ann's	—	—	15	10	—
Total	987	948	1116	1021	1019

Decrease in baptisms 95
Decrease in marriages 35
Increase in burials 117

* Exclusive of marriages in Dissenting places of worship.——† 71 of the burials were of infants a year old, and 50 between the ages of 70 and 95.——‡ Exclusive of 35 burials of still-born infants.

GATESHEAD.	*Baptisms.*		*Burials.*		*Marriages.*
St. Mary's	183	220	191	189	120
Fell Church	61	53	48	44	34
	244	273	239	233	154

	St. M.	*Fell.*
Decrease in baptisms	14	24
Decrease in burials	7	35
Decrease in marriages	23	10

CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(From the *Catholic Directory*, 1842.)

Bucks, Beds, Cambridgeshire, Isle of Man, Guernsey, Denbighshire, Brecknockshire, and Caernarvonshire	*each* 1	8
Cornwall, Hertfordshire, Westmoreland, Flintshire, and Jersey	*each* 2	10
Notts, Wilts, and Glamorganshire	*each* 3	9
Herefordshire	4	4
Berkshire and Northamptonshire	*each* 5	10
Suffolk	6	6
Essex, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Surrey, and Sussex	*each* 7	42
Cumberland and Devonshire	*each* 8	16
Derbyshire, Dorsetshire, Monmouthshire, and Shropshire	*each* 9	36
Cheshire and Somersetshire	*each* 10	20
Hampshire and Lincolnshire	*each* 12	24
Worcestershire	13	13
Kent	14	14
Leicestershire	15	15
Durham and Warwickshire	*each* 17	34
Middlesex and Northumberland	*each* 20	40
Staffordshire	32	32
Yorkshire	62	62
Lancashire	92	92
Churches and chapels in England and Wales		487
Churches and chapels in Scotland		69
Total		556

Besides 24 stations in Scotland where divine service is performed.

In England there are eight Catholic Colleges, viz., St. Edmund's, Hertfordshire; St. Peter's, St. Paul's, St. Gregory's, Somersetshire; Stonyhurst, Lancashire; St. Mary's, Staffordshire; Ushaw College, Durham; St. Lawrence's, Yorkshire. In Scotland, one, viz., St. Mary's, Blairs, Kincardineshire.

There are three monasteries, viz., in the Central District of England. The number of districts is as follows:—London, 4; Central, 6; Western, 5; Lancashire, 1; Yorkshire, 2; Northern, 1; Scotland, 1; total, 20. There are 624 missionary priests in England and Wales, (including priests without any fixed mission,) viz., London District, 117; Central, 117; Eastern, 31; Western, 54; Lancashire, 155; Yorkshire, 61; Northern, 57; Wales, 20. In Scotland:—Eastern District, 21, Western, 36; Northern, 29. Total number in Britain, 711.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS, OBSERVER OFFICE, GATESHEAD.

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